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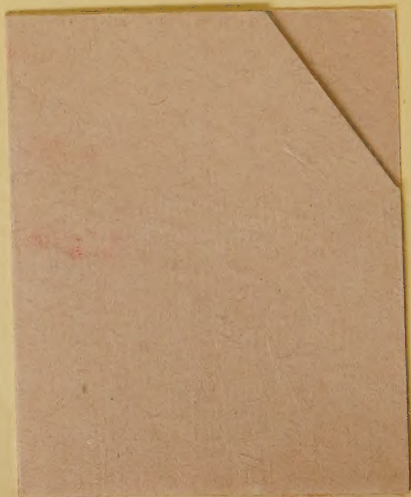
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THE PREHISTORIC & ROMAN REMAINS OF DENBIGHSHIRE

BY

THE REV. ELLIS DAVIES, M.A., F.S.A.

VICAR OF WHITFORD, HOLYWELL

JOINT EDITOR OF "ARCHAEOLOGIA CAMBRENSIS"



WITH 146 ILLUSTRATIONS

AND MAP ($\frac{1}{2}$ INCH TO THE MILE) OF THE COUNTY
SHOWING ALL THE SITES

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GWAIRANARTH LLYFRGBER

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PREFACE.

THIS volume originated in an essay which won a prize offered at the Abergavenny National Eisteddfod, 1913, for a Handbook describing the British and Roman remains of any Welsh County.

In the very short time then at one's disposal justice could not be done to the antiquities of so unwieldy a county. Ever since, as time and opportunity permitted, the writer has been working on the subject, paying repeated visits to every district and collecting material. Situated as his abode has been since October, 1913, ten miles outside the area of his investigation, the task has been somewhat laborious. Until omnibuses came on the scene, travelling for the most part was done by means of a bicycle.

Assistance in various ways has been received from a large number of persons, especially the clergy of the county, several of whom, alas ! have meanwhile passed away. Acknowledgment of indebtedness is expressed to Messrs. Reginald A. Smith and G. F. Hill, of the British Museum ; Dr. Cyril Fox, of the National Museum of Wales ; Dr. Willoughby Gardner, and particularly Mr. Wilfrid J. Hemp, Secretary to the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales and Monmouthshire. Thanks for the loan of blocks are due to the Cambrian Archaeological Association, the Llandudno Field Club, the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, and the Oxford University Press.

The Author's aim throughout has been to record information, "the raw material of knowledge," and not to theorise and draw conclusions, if he were competent to do so. Every effort has been made to furnish complete and accurate particulars of all the Pre-historic and Roman remains of the county, but it is too much to hope that one's object has been fully attained. The nature of the subject precludes the possibility of exhaustiveness.

Criticism is anticipated on many points. One could wish that, for instance, plans of camps were on a uniform scale, the map of the county was contoured, and some of the illustrations were more helpful to students. The author, however, hopes that an undertaking which has afforded him so much pleasure will prove of some use to others.

In conclusion, the writer would thank his printers for the excellency of their work.

E. D.

WHITFORD,
July, 1929.

N.B.—All the plans in this work are based on the Ordnance Survey maps, with the sanction of the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office.

CONTENTS.

ACCORDING TO PARISHES.

	<i>Page</i>
ABENBURY FAWR.	
ABERGELE URBAN	27
Stone Celt : Clwyd Avenue	27
ABERGELE RURAL	28
Tumulus : Moelfre Isaf	28
Small Cairn (?) : Ffrith Dolganed	28
Remains of a Circle : Ffrith Dolganed	28
Camp : Pen-y-Corddyn	29

ERRATA, ETC.

P. 69, line 4 : *for* " ap Gruffydd's " *read* " ap Iorwerth's ".

P. 363 : In a letter dated " Castle House, Oswestry, April 17th, 1852," found by Miss Chitty inside the Tynewydd, Llansilin, bronze socketed celt, " John Wynne " writes : " The man who found it states that there was one also of stone of nearly similar shape at the sharp end—but different at the thicker one and about two inches longer than this it was thrown away as being of no value ".

P. 217 : Photo by H. Higgins, M.A., Trefriw.

Bronze Implements : Rhosnesney	50
ALLINGTON.	
BERSHAM	53
Alleged Site of a Cairn	53
BETTWS YN RHOS	53
Destroyed Cairn : Y Garnedd	53
Spindle Whorl : Trofarth	53
Roman Coin : Coed Coch	54
BIESTON.	
BORRAS HWFA.	
BORRAS RIFFRI.	
BROUGHTON	54
Camp : Bryn y Gaer	54
BRYMBO	
BRYN EGLWYS	55
Tumuli : Tymawr	55
Tumuli : Rhos Lydan	56
Tumulus and Maenhir : Pant-y-maen	56
" Bryn yr Orsedd "	57
Alleged Camp : Churchyard	58
Leaf-shaped Sword	58
Spindle Whorls : Bryn yr Orsedd	58

	<i>Page</i>
BURTON	59
Spindle Whorl : Yew Tree Farm	59
BYLCHAU	59
Tumuli : Near the Church	59
Remains on Moel Tywysog	60
Bronze Palstave : Ereiviat	60
CACCA DUTTON.	
CEFN (RUABON).	
CEFN (ST. ASAPH)	61
Ossiferous Cave : Y Bont Newydd	61
Ossiferous Cave : Plas yn Cefn	62
Long Cairn and Cists : Tyddyn Bleiddyn	64
Camp : " Bedd y Cawr "	67
Erect Stones : Tanygraig	68
Bronze Celts	68
Spindle Whorls : Carreg Dafydd	68
CERRIG-Y-DRUDION	68
The Name of the Parish	68
Ssepulchral Chambers : Hafod-y-maidd	71
Tumulus : Cronglwyd Fawr	75
Tumulus : Pentre-cwm-mawr	75
Remains of Cist : Bryn Heilyn	75
Remains of Cairn : Bryn y Garnedd	76
Destroyed Cistfaen : Tai Ucha	76
Vanished Cists : Hafod y Llan	76
Cairn Sites (?) : Pont yr Alwen	76
Circles : Mynydd Poeth	77
" Cerrig-y-Gwr-Cethin "	77
Stone Circle : Near the Alwen Waterworks	78
Stone Circle : Alwen Reservoir	78
Circles : Bryn Heilyn	78
Circles : Pont yr Alwen	79
Platform : Pont yr Alwen	80
Circles : Carn Brys	80
Alleged Remains of a Burial Chamber : Tyn-y-Gilfach	81
Huts : Craig yr Iyrchen Bach	81
Pile of Stones : Mwdwl Eithin	81
Carn Brys	82
Row of Erect Stones : Carn Brys	82
Bronze Socketed Celt : Village	82
Bronze Celt	83
Bronze Dagger or Dirk : Elor Garreg	83
Bronze Spearhead : Alwen Reservoir	84
Cist and Remains of a Bronze Bowl : Ty-tan-y-foel	85
Roman Coins : Hafod-y-maidd	89
Quern : Cernioge Mawr	90
CHIRK	90
Pillar Stone : Fron Uchaf	90

	<i>Page</i>
CLOCAENOG	90
Tumulus . Coed Pennant	90
Destroyed Stone Circle : " Preseb y Fuwch Frech," Lodge	91
Tumulus (?) : Bedd Emlyn	92
Alleged Rifled Cairn : Near Bedd Emlyn	95
Circles : Clocaenog Moor	95
Destroyed Cairns : Hafoty Hendre	96
Hut Circles : Moel y Fron, Bryn Gwrgi	97
Hut Circles : Hafoty Hendre	97
Ancient Village : Cefn Bannog	97
Quadrilateral Enclosure : Lodge Uchaf	97
Spindle Whorl : Churchyard	98
CYFFYLLIOG	98
Cairn : Banciau Ty Uchaf	98
Remains of Cairn : Y Foel Goch	98
Tumulus (?) : Y Foel Goch	99
Tumulus : Cors Cesyg	99
Cairns : Y Foel Frech	99
Circles : Capel Hiraethog	101
Circle : Hafoty Wen	103
Circles : Y Foel Frech	103
Remains of an Enclosure : Swch Isgaer Wen	104
Quadrilateral Enclosure and Cairn : Pincyn Llys	104
Pen yr Orsedd	105
Cae'r Garnedd	105
Alleged Camp : Caer Forwyn	106
Bronze Dagger : Nilig	106
Spindle Whorl : Nilig	107
DENBIGH	107
Artificial Mound : Near Howell's School	107
DERWEN	108
Remains of Cairn : Garw Fynydd	108
Large Circles : " Caerau "	108
Artificial Mound—Cock-pit (?) : Cefn Mawr	108
Bronze Dagger : Glan Gors	108
Roman Coins : Pyllau Perl	109
DUTTON DIFFAITH.	
DUTTON Y BRAIN.	
EFENECHTYD	109
Tumulus : Perthi	109
Camp : Pen y Gaer	110
Bronze Palstave : Coed Marchan	111
Bronze Socketed Celt : Coed Marchan	111
EGLWYSBACH	112
Tumulus : Tyn Terfyn	112
Tumulus : Bryn Rhydd	112
Tumulus : Bedd Carrog	112
Tumuli : Mwdwl Eithin	113

EGLWYSBACH— <i>continued.</i>						<i>Page</i>
Bedd-y-canwr : Bryn Bach	..	..	..	..	..	118
Cae'r Garn : Llety	..	..	..	..	..	119
Vanished Standing Stones : Y Groes Onnen	..	..	..	..	..	119
Spindle Whorl : Bryn Derw	..	..	..	..	..	119
ERBISTOCK.						
ERDDIG.						
ERLAS.						
ESCLUSHAM ABOVE DYKE	..	..	..	..	..	119
Tumulus : Tyhir Sheepwalk	..	..	..	..	..	119
Tumulus : Near Aber Sychnant	..	..	..	..	..	120
Cairn : Near Aber Sychnant 1.	..	..	..	..	..	120
Cairns : Above Nant y Cwm Mawr	..	..	..	..	..	120
ESCLUSHAM BELOW DYKE	..	..	..	..	..	121
Tumulus : Croes Foel	..	..	..	..	..	121
Tumulus : Hafod y Bwch	..	..	..	..	..	121
Artificial Mound : Plas Cadwgan	..	..	..	..	..	121
EYTON.						
GLYNTRAEAN	..	..	..	..	..	122
Tumuli : Yr Orsedd Wen	..	..	..	..	..	122
Tumuli : Bryn Bugeilyn	..	..	..	..	..	126
Tumulus : Llwydiarth	..	..	..	..	..	129
Tumuli : Bryn Arddun	..	..	..	..	..	129
Cairns : Y Graig Wen Hill	..	..	..	..	..	130
Cairn : Spring Hill	..	..	..	..	..	132
Tumulus (?) : Plas Crogen	..	..	..	..	..	132
Concentric Circles : Spring Hill	..	..	..	..	..	132
GOURTON.						
GRESFORD	..	..	..	..	..	133
Artificial Mound : Near Station	..	..	..	..	..	133
GWERN HOWEL	..	..	..	..	..	133
Remains of Cairn and Cist : Moel Frech	..	..	..	..	..	133
Stone Circle : Cerrig Ellgwm Isaf	..	..	..	..	..	133
GWERSYLLT	..	..	..	..	..	134
Tumulus (?) : Gwersyllt Park	..	..	..	..	..	134
Alleged Earthwork : The Wauns	..	..	..	..	..	134
GWYTHERIN	..	..	..	..	..	134
Tumulus : Ffrith Uchaf	..	..	..	..	..	134
Carnedd Goronwy : Fawnog Fawr	..	..	..	..	..	135
Mound : Moel Seisiog	..	..	..	..	..	135
Pillar Stones : Churchyard	..	..	..	..	..	136
Bronze Palstave : Caecoed	..	..	..	..	..	137
Bronze Celt	..	..	..	..	..	138
GYFFYLLIOG (<i>see</i> CYFFYLLIOG).						

	<i>Page</i>
HENLLAN	138
Ossiferous Cave : Plas Heaton	138
Tumulus (Excavated) : Plas Heaton	139
Tumulus : Coed y Plas	141
Tumulus : Plas Meifod	142
Tumuli : Plas Heaton	142
Tumuli : Fox Hall	142
Earthwork : Fox Hall	143
HOLT	143
Sepulchral Vessels : Wall Lock Field	143
Roman Manufactory	145
Roman Coin : Wall Lock Field	155
LLAI	155
Tumulus : Bryn Alun	155
Camp : Bryn Alun	155
Earthwork : Y Gaer	157
LLANARMON DYFFRYN CEIRIOG	157
Cairn : Mynydd Tarw	157
Cairn : Cader Fronwen	158
Cairn : Swch-cae-rhiw	158
Camp : Cerrig-gwynion	159
Ancient Roads	160
Mound : Churchyard	161
Pen yr Orsedd	161
Stone Hammer : Pentre	161
Bronze Celt : Mynydd Tarw	161
Bronze Celt : Dolwen	162
Roman Coins : Sarffle	162
Quern Stones : Cwm-y-Geifr and Dolwen	165
LLANARMON MYNYDD MAWR.	
LLANARMON YN IAL	165
Ossiferous Caves : Perthi Chwarae and Rhos Ddigre	165
Cairns : Moel y Waun	171
Tumuli : Tyn-y-llan	172
Tumulus : Nurse Fawr	172
Tumulus : Moel y Plas	173
Tumulus : Llwyn y Fran	173
Tumulus : Saith Darren	173
Excavated Tumuli	174
Tumuli : Turnpike	175
Cairns : Moel Garegog	176
Cairn : Llyn Cyfynwy	176
Tumulus : Bwlch Llech	177
Cairn : Moel Giw	177
Vanished Cairn : Bedd y Gwr Hir	178
Prehistoric Burial : Bodidris	178
Ancient Burial : Bryn yr Orsedd	179
Explored Cave : Near Village	179

	<i>Page</i>
LLANARMON YN IAL— <i>continued.</i>	
Mound : Tynmynydd	179
Stone Celt : Bryniau	180
Circular Stone Hammer : Rhiw Ial	181
Spindle Whorl : Tomen y Faerdre	182
LLANBEDR	182
Cairn : Moel Fenlli	182
Tumuli : Moel Eithinen	182
Camp : Moel Fenlli	183
Camp : Moel y Gaer	186
Stone Hammer : Bwlch Pen Barras	190
Circular Stone Hammer : Llanbedr	191
Bronze Implements : Moel y Gaer	191
Spindle Whorls : Rectory and Rhiwlas	191
Loom Weights : Bwlch Pen Barras	192
LLANDEGLA	192
Tumuli : Maes Maelor	192
Cairns : Cyn y Brain	192
Erw Garnedd : Near Crown Inn	193
Ancient Paved Road	193
LLANDRILLO	194
Tumuli : Glan y Gors	194
Camp : Bryn Euryn	194
Stone Celt : Colwyn Bay	196
Bronze Celt : Colwyn Bay	197
Roman Coins : Bryn Euryn	198
Roman Coins : Rhos Abbey	198
Roman Coin : Nant Sempyr	199
LLANDYRNOG	199
Large Stones : Cerrig Llwydion	199
Camp : Pen-y-cloddiau	200
Spindle Whorl : Speddyd	202
LLANDDOGET	202
Roman Coin : Y Wern	202
Spindle Whorl : Penllan	202
LLANDDULAS.	
LLANELIAN YN RHOS	203
Tumuli : Gloddaeth	203
Tumulus : Tyn-y-ffridd	205
Mound : Plas Llewelyn	205
LLANELIDAN	206
Tumulus : Tom Dongen	206
Tumulus : Maes y Llan	206
Tumulus : Pwll Naid	206
Tumulus : Carreg Einws	207
Tumulus (?) : Cefn Maen Llwyd	207
Tumulus (?) : Pwll Du	208

LLANELIDAN—*continued*.

Page

Cist-burial : Caerddinen	208
Caerddinen	208
Roman Coins : Bodlywydd	208

LLANFAIR DYFFRYN CLWYD URBAN.

LLANFAIR DYFFRYN CLWYD RURAL.. .. . 211

Tumulus : Plas Einion	211
Cairn : Tyn Llanfair	211
Cairn : Mynydd Cricor	212
Tumulus : Mynydd Cricor	212
Tumulus : Bwlch Llech	212
Tumulus (?) : Tyncelyn	213
Camp : Craig Adwy Wynt	213
Avenue of Stones (?) : Cerrig Llwydion	215
Ancient Road : Llwyn Ynn	215
" Roman Bridge " : Llwyn Ynn	216
Stone Axe : Llwyn Ynn	216
Bronze Palstave : Llwyn Ynn	218
Bronze Palstave : Plas Uchaf	220
Bronze Palstave : Pwll Callod	220
Bronze Dagger : Eyarth Rocks	221
Spoon-shaped Relics : Ffynogion	222
Roman Coin	223

LLANFAIRTALHAEARN 224

Tumuli : Rhosdomen	224
Tumulus : Nant Cornwall	225
Tumulus : Pen-y-mwdwl	225
Small Tumulus : Mynydd Bodrochwyn	225
Cae Garnedd	226
Sepulchral Vessels : Melai	226
Bronze Palstave : Felin Grepog	226
Quern Stones : Gwern y Ciliau	227
Spindle Whorl : Plas Onn	227

LLANFERRES 227

Remains of Cairns : Moel Farnau	227
Cairn Sites : Maes y Garnedd	228
Roman Coins : Moel Fenlli	228
Roman Coin : Maes Hafn	230

LLANFIHANGEL GLYN MYFYR 230

Circles : Hafod Wen, Nant Tanyfoel, Tyddyn Tudur	230
Circle : Caer Ddunod	231
Camp : Caer Ddunod	231
Camp : Caer Caradog	234
Maenhir : Penygaer	236
Stone Axe-hammer : Tir-y-barwn	236
Bronze Celt : Penygaer.. .. .	238

LLANFWROG URBAN.

LLANFWROG RURAL 238

Alleged Camp : Pen-y-gaer	238
-----------------------------------	-----

	<i>Page</i>
LLANGADWALADR	239
Tumulus : Tomen y Gwyddel	239
Cairns : Pen Llyn Gloyw	239
Cairn : Bryn Du	240
Bronze Age Interment : Tregeiriog	241
Mound : Sgwennant	241
Stone Hammer : Tregeiriog	242
Bronze Celt : Hen Hafod	242
Spindle Whorl : Tomen y Gwyddel	243
LLANGEDWYN	244
Small Camp, or Post : Yr Allt	244
Mound : Green Inn	245
Spindle Whorl : Banhadle	245
LLANGERNYW	245
Destroyed Tumulus : Hendre Ddu	245
Alleged Tumulus : Near Llanddewi Vicarage	246
Earthwork : Near Pant y Rhedyn	246
Pillar Stones : Churchyard	246
Mound : Hendre Isaf	247
Stone Celt : Y Wenlli	247
Stone Celts : Hafod Fawr	249
Stone Hammers : Plas Isaf	249
Stone Chisel : Foel Fawr	250
Palstave : Bodgynwch	251
Quern : Rhos Lan	251
Spindle Whorls : Bodywrach	251
LLANGOLLEN URBAN	252
Fort : Dinas Bran	252
Bronze Socketed Celt : Dinas Bran	254
Bronze Socketed Celt : Near Llangollen	254
LLANGOLLEN RURAL	255
Remains of Tumulus : Blaen Bache	255
Tumulus : Blaen Nant	256
Tumulus : Ffynnon Las	256
Tumulus : Wilderness	256
Cairn : Wilderness	257
Tumulus : Cefn y Fedw	257
Tumuli : Eglwyseg Mountain	257
Tumulus : Eglwyseg Mountain	259
Cairns : Eglwyseg Mountain	259
Cairn : Creigiau Eglwyseg	260
Tumulus : Creigiau Eglwyseg	261
Tumuli : Eglwyseg Mountain	261
Cairn : Craig y Forwyn	262
Tumulus : Craig y Forwyn	262
Cairn : Sychnant	262
Cairn : Nant Craig-y-moch	263
Cairn : Tower, Trevor	263
Cairns : Blackwood, Trevor	263

LLANGOLLEN RURAL— <i>continued</i> .	<i>Page</i>
Remains of Cairns : Near Eglwyseg Plantation	264
Remains of Cairns : Trevor Rocks	264
Carnedd Foel Ddu : Eglwyseg Plantation	266
Stone Circle : Eglwyseg Mountain	266
Earthen Circle : Eglwyseg Mountain	267
Dew Pond (?) : Eglwyseg Mountain	267
Meini Hirion : Eglwyseg Mountain	267
Standing Stone : Carreg y Big	267
Camp : Pen-y-gaer, Trevor	268
Stone Celt : Trevor Hall	271
Bronze Palstave	271
Bronze Socketed Celt : Trevor	272
Bronze Socketed Spearheads : Eglwyseg Rocks	273
Alleged Roman Floor-tile : Nant Craig-y-moch	274
Penannular Brooch : Trevor Rocks	274
LLANGWM	275
Tumulus : Ystrad Fawr	275
Remains of Tumulus : Cader Ddinmael	281
Meini'r Beirdd : Cader Ddinmael	282
Site of Fort : Caer Gerrig	282
Horseshoe Pavement : Dolpennau	283
Stone Remains : Dolpennau	284
Stone Hammer or Mace-head : Maesmor	284
Roman Coins : Bryndedwydd	285
Quern : Tyddyn Eli	288
Quern : Rectory	288
Quern Stone : Maesmor	288
LLANGWYFAN.	
LLANGYNHAFAL.	
LLANGYSTENNIN.	
LLANNEFYDD	288
Ossiferous Cave : Brasgyll	288
Tumuli : Moel Fodiar	289
Cairn Site : Y Garnedd	289
Bryn y Bedd : Cors y Nant	290
Maes Carneddau : Bron Haul	290
Camp : Mynydd y Gaer	291
Earthwork : Moel y Canwr	293
Trench and Bank : Mynydd y Gyrt	294
Naid y Cawr : Tanygaer	294
Mound : Hafod	294
Mound : Ffynhonnau	294
Fragment of Stone Axe : Y Foel Bach	295
Stone Implement : Y Foel Bach	295
Large Stone : Ty Canol	296
Spindle Whorls : Brynffynnon	296

	<i>Page</i>
LLANRHAIADR-YM-MOCHNANT	296
Cairn : Afon Disgynfa	296
Cairn : Moel Sych	296
Cairn : Craig Berwyn	297
Tumulus (?) : Cader Berwyn	297
Cairn : Gwernfeifod	297
Cairn : Y Garnedd Wen	298
Tumulus : Y Foel Ddu	298
Cairn : Carnedd Caecrin, Gwernfeifod	298
Tumulus : Maes Mochnant Isaf	299
Alleged Cromlech : Pant-y-garreg-fawr	299
Camp : Bryn Dinas	300
Pillar Stone—Maenhir : Maes Mochnant Isaf	302
Pillar Stone—Maenhir : The Village	303
Ancient Roads	304
Stone Hammer : River Iwrch	306
Stone Hammer : Tyn-y-ddol	306
Perforated Whetstone : Tyn-y-graig	307
Quern Stone : Tybrith	307
Fragments of Querns : Buarth-y-re	308
Spindle Whorls : Ty Isaf	308
Spindle Whorls	308
LLANRHAIADR YN CINMERCH	308
Tumulus : Bwlch Du	308
Tumulus : Rhyd Siôn Wyn	309
Tumulus : Twr yr Hill	309
Remains of a Cairn : Above Ceunant Diffwys	310
Circular Platform : Rhyd Siôn Wyn	310
Stone Circles or Circular Platforms : Hafoty Siôn Llwyd	310
Site of Cairn : Y Garnedd	311
Megalithic Remains (?) : Cefn Maen	311
Pillar Stone : Near Hen Ddinbych	311
Huts : Nant y Griafofen	312
Earthwork : Coed Corniwhch	312
Earthwork : Hen Ddinbych	313
Stone Hammer : Hafod Lom	316
Quern : Hen Ddinbych	317
Quern : Pen-y-bryn	317
LLANRHUDD	317
Roman Coin	317
LLANRWST URBAN	317
Bronze Bracelet : Llwyn Erw	317
Perforated Stone Disc : Cae Groes Farm Cottage	319
LLANRWST RURAL	319
Remains of Long Cairn : Maen Pebyll, Nebo	319
Chambered Long Cairn—"Cromlech" : Capel Garmon	323
Tumulus : Farm Yard	329
Destroyed Tumulus : Gorsedd Grugyn	331
Remains of Cairn : Y Garnedd Wen	332

LLANRWST RURAL— <i>continued</i>	<i>Page</i>
Carnedd Rhun and Bedd Alarch : Near Nebo	333
Site of Cairn : Bryn Cyplau	334
Tumulus : Henblas	335
Tumulus : Soflan	335
Tumulus (?) : Bryn yr Odyn	335
Tumulus (?) : Moel Iwrch Uchaf	335
Pen y Garnedd	336
Small Earthen Structures : Nebo	336
Earthen Enclosure : Cae-haidd	336
Stone Celts : Coedfa	337
Stone Celt : Farm Yard	338
Stone Celts : Pen-y-fron	339
Stone Hammer : Pen-y-fron	340
Bronze Palstave : Cilcennis	341
Bronze Celt : Nant Cadwgan	342
Bronze Spearhead : Nebo	342
Fire Dog : Carreg Coedog, Capel Garmou	343
Spindle Whorls : Farm Yard	345
LLANSANNAN	345
Tumulus : Bedd Robin Hood	345
Tumulus : Deunant Isaf	346
Tumulus : Blaen y Cwm	347
Tumulus : " Boncyn Crwn "	347
Tumulus : Bryn Cynrig	347
Tumulus : Bryn Nantllech	347
Tumulus : Cae Du	348
Tumulus : Hwlfordd	348
Tumulus : Penclogor	348
Tumuli : Pengwern	349
Tumulus : Plas Newydd	349
Tumulus : Rhiwiau	350
Tumulus (?) : Cae Gronw	350
Prehistoric Burial : Cefn Treflech	351
Mound : Bryn yr Orsedd	351
Destroyed Mound : Poncyn Cogor	351
Graves : Beidiog Uchaf	352
A Grave : Rhyd-y-bedd	352
Grey Stone : Bryn Cynrig	353
Flint Implement : Rhiwiau	353
Stone Net-sinker : River Aled	353
Perforated Stone : River Cogor	354
Spindle Whorl : Cae Du	354
Spindle Whorls : Cefn Treflech	354
LLANSANTFFRAID GLAN CONWAY	354
Burial Chamber (Cromlech) : Hendre-Waelod	354
Tumulus : Pen-yr-Orsedd	356
Tumulus : Gofer	356
Cae Trum y Garnedd	356
A Small Camp : Erw Goch	356
" Trunnion " Bronze Celt : Bryn Eisteddfod	357

	<i>Page</i>
LLANSANTFFRAID GLYN CEIRIOG	358
Tumulus : Tomen-y-Meirw	358
Bronze Palstave	358
LLANSILIN	358
Remains of Cairn : Mynydd y Bryn	358
Destroyed Cairns and Circle : Mynydd y Bryn	360
Stone and Bronze Implements : Tynewydd	362
Hammer Stone : Tynewydd	363
Quern Stone (?) : Rhiwlas	363
" Bwrdd y Tri Arglwydd " : Bryn Glas	364
LLANTYSILIO YN IAL	364
Tumulus : Moel y Gamelin	364
Tumulus of Eliseg : Valle Crucis	364
Camp : Moel y Gaer	366
Boncyn Gefelïau : Rhewl	367
Twmpath : Coed Ial	367
Bronze Axes, etc.	368
Bronze Socketed Celt	369
Torcs : Tan-y-llwyn	369
Bronze Vessels : Coed Ial	369
Roman Coins : Pen-y-bryn	372
Roman Coin : Tynewydd	373
LLANYCHAN.	
LLANYNYS URBAN.	
LLANYNYS RURAL	373
Tumuli : Plas-y-Ward	373
Camp : Pwll-y-clai	374
LLYSFAEN	374
Roman Coins, Amber Beads : Pwll Morkyn	374
Roman Coins : Pentregwyddel	375
MARCHWIEL.	
MINERA	376
Bronze Socketed Knife	376
NANTGLYN	376
Tumuli : Gorsedd Bran	376
Tumuli : Cefn Brennig	379
PENTREVOELAS	380
Pen yr Orsedd	380
Cairn : Near Pen yr Orsedd	380
Remains of Cairn : Moel Rhiwlug	381
Remains of Cistfaen : Cernioge	381
Vanished Cist : Tai-tan-lan	381
Cists and Stone Alignments : Hafod-y-garreg	382
Alignments of Stones, etc. : Hafod-y-dre	384

PENTREVOELAS— <i>continued.</i>	<i>Page</i>
Circle : Maes y Merddyn	385
Circle : Fron Bellaf	385
Artificial Mound : Maes Gwyn	385
Mounds : Llwyn Onn	386
Ancient Village (?) : Moel Seisiog	386
Maes y Carneddi : Cernioge	386
Bwlch y Garnedd	387
Carnedd y Drummer : Cefnen Wen	387
Cinerary Urn : Trebeddau	387
Flint Implement	387
Stone Hammer : Maes Gwyn	387
Spearheads : Dol Trebeddau	388
Bronze Spearhead : Maes-y-merddyn	388
Quern Stone : Waun Eos	389
PEN-Y-CAE	390
Tumulus : Cefn-y-Gader	390
Cairns : Cefn-y-Gader	390
Tumulus : Ruabon Mountain	391
Cairns : Ruabon Mountain	391
Roman Coins : Ruabon Mountain	391
PICKHILL.	
RHOSLLANERCHRUGOG	392
Pant-y-garn	392
RIDLEY.	
ROYTON.	
RUABON	392
Cistfaen and Sepulchral Urn : Bryn	392
Tumulus : Wynnstay	394
Prehistoric Burial : The Grammar School	394
Camp : Y Gardden	395
Artificial Mound : Wynnstay	396
Bronze Socketed Celt	397
RUTHIN URBAN	397
Tumulus : Perllan yr Arglwydd	397
RUTHIN RURAL.	
SESSWICK.	
ST. GEORGE	398
Remains of Long Cairn and Sepulchral Chamber : Dinorben	
Lodge	398
Site of Cairn : Pen-y-garnedd	398
Camp : Parc y Meirch	399
Mound : Dinorben	408
Bronze Horse Trappings : Parc y Meirch	408
Spindle Whorl : Pant-y-clyd	411
Quern Stone : Pant-y-clyd	411
Quern Stone : Parc y Meirch	411

STANSTY.

SUTTON.

TIR IFAN	.. .. .	411
Tumuli (?) : Cerrig Ellgwm Isaf	.. .. .	411
Tumulus (?) : Ynys Wen	.. .. .	411
TRE-BRYS	.. .. .	412
Camp : Y Gaer	.. .. .	412
Bryn Beddau : Rhydlydan	.. .. .	412
TREFNANT	.. .. .	413
Flint Celt : Tynlon	.. .. .	413
Spindle Whorl : Tynlon	.. .. .	414
WREXHAM	.. .. .	414
Tumulus : Hillbury	.. .. .	414
Tumulus : Fairy Mount	.. .. .	417
Roman Road from Deva (Chester) to Segontium (Caernarvon)	..	418

ILLUSTRATIONS.

ABERGELE URBAN.		<i>Page</i>
Fig. 1.	Stone Axe found in Clwyd Avenue	27
ABERGELE RURAL.		
Fig. 2.	Plan of Pen-y-Corddyn Camp	29
Fig. 3.	Two Sections across the site	30
Fig. 4.	Plan of Ascent to N.E. entrance	31
Fig. 5.	N.E. entrance, as excavated	32
Fig. 6.	Relics discovered	34
Fig. 7.	Plan of Castell Cawr Camp	36
Fig. 8.	Roman Bronze Vessels from Plas Uchaf ..	41
Fig. 9.	Colander ditto	41
ACTON.		
Fig. 10.	Bronze Implements from Rhosnesney	51
Fig. 11.	Ditto	52
BROUGHTON.		
Fig. 12.	Plan of Camp on Bryn-y-Gaer	54
BRYNEGLWYS.		
Fig. 13.	Outline of Leaf-shaped sword	58
BYLCHAU.		
Fig. 14.	Palstave from Freiviat	60
CEFN (ST. ASAPH).		
Fig. 15.	Plan of the Tyddyn Bleiddyn Long Cairn ...	65
CERRIG-Y-DRUDION.		
Fig. 16.	Bronze Socketed Celt : Village	82
Fig. 17.	1. Bronze Dirk : Elor Garreg. 2. Dagger : Nilig, Cyffylliog. 3. Socketed Celt : Llantysilio. 4. Socketed Celt : Denbigh	83
Fig. 18.	Bronze Spearhead : Alwen Reservoir	84
Fig. 19.	Bronze Hanging Bowl (Elevation and Section) : Ty-tan-y-foel	86
Fig. 20.	Ditto (decoration and details)	87
Fig. 21.	Bronze bowl with 3 escutcheons, Ewelme, Oxon. ($\frac{2}{3}$)	88
Fig. 22.	Pottery vase with details, St. Pol-de-Léon, Finistère	88
CYFFYLLIOG.		
Fig. 23.	Plan of Capel Hiraethog Stone Circle	102
EFENECHTYD.		
Fig. 24.	Plan of Pen y Gaer Camp	110
Fig. 25.	Bronze Socketed Celt : Coed Marchan	111
EGLWYS BACH.		
Fig. 26.	Plan of Mwdwl Eithin tumulus	114
Fig. 27.	Part of Stone Circle	115
Fig. 28.	Urn Restored	116
Fig. 29.	Portions of Urn	117

	<i>Page</i>
GLYNTRAEAN.	
Fig. 30. Dagger from Yr Orsedd Wen tumulus	123
Fig. 31. Fragment of Iron Spearhead ditto	124
Fig. 32. Urn : Bryn Bugeilyn tumulus	127
GWYTHERIN.	
Fig. 33. Pillar Stones : Churchyard	136
Fig. 34. <i>a.</i> Bronze Socketed Knife : Minera. <i>b.</i> Bronze Palstave : Caecoed, Gwytherin. <i>c.</i> Bronze Axe : Dolwen, Llanarmon D.C.	137
HENLLAN.	
Fig. 35. Beaker : Plas Heaton tumulus	140
HOLT.	
Fig. 36. Sepulchral Vessels : Wall Lock Field	143
Fig. 37. Cinerary Urn : Ditto	144
Fig. 38. Plan showing site of Roman Manufactory ..	146
Fig. 39. Plan of Barracks	148
Fig. 40. Plan of Bath-house and Dwelling	148
Fig. 41. Restoration of Kiln plant	149
Fig. 42. Tile bearing graffito, etc.	150
Fig. 43. Antefixae	151
Fig. 44. Mortarium Stamp	152
Fig. 45. Punch for stamping ornament, for imitation Samian	152
Fig. 46. Stamped ware in imitation of Samian	152
Fig. 47. Stamped ware, imitation of Samian	153
LLAI.	
Fig. 48. Plan of Bryn Alun Camp	156
LLANARMON D.C.	
Fig. 49. Plan of Cerrig Gwynion Camp	159
LLANARMON YN IAL.	
Fig. 50. Flints from Rhos Ddigre Cave	169
Fig. 51. Neolithic Vessel. Ditto	170
Fig. 52. Stone Axe. Ditto	171
Fig. 53. Stone Axe : Bryniau	180
Fig. 54. Perforated Circular Stone : Rhiw Ial	181
LLANBEDR.	
Fig. 55. Plan of Moel Fenlli Camp	183
Fig. 56. Plan of Moel y Gaer Camp	187
Fig. 57. Stone Hammer : Bwlch Pen Barras	190
LLANDRILLO.	
Fig. 58. Plan of Bryn Euryn Camp	195
Fig. 59. Stone Axe : Colwyn Bay	197
LLANDYRNOG.	
Fig. 60. Plan of Pen-y-cloddiau Camp	200
LLANELIAN.	
Fig. 61. Map showing the sites of the Gloddaeth tumuli ..	203
Fig. 62. Urn from Gloddaeth tumulus	204

LLANFAIR D.C.				<i>Page</i>
Fig. 63.	Plan of Craig Adwy Wynt Camp	..	..	213
Fig. 64.	Stone Celt : Llwyn Ynn ..	..	..	217
Fig. 65.	Bronze Palstave : Llwyn Ynn ..	..	..	219
Fig. 66.	Bronze Palstave : Plas Uchaf ..	..	..	220
Fig. 67.	Bronze Palstave : Pwll Callod ..	..	..	221
Fig. 68.	Spoon-shaped Relics : Ffynogion ..	..	..	222
LLANFIHANGEL GLYN MYFYR.				
Fig. 69.	Plan of Caer Caradog Camp ..	..	..	234
Fig. 70.	Stone Axe-hammer : Tir-y-barwn ..	..	..	237
LLANGADWALADR.				
Fig. 71.	Bronze Palstave : Hen Hafod ..	..	..	243
LLANGERNYW.				
Fig. 72.	Stone Axe : Y Wenlli ..	..	..	248
Fig. 73.	Stone Axe-hammer : Plas Isaf Bronze Palstave : Bodgynwch ..	..	..	249
LLANGOLLEN URBAN.				
Fig. 74.	Dinas Bran Camp ..	..	..	252
Fig. 75.	Bronze Socketed Celt : Dinas Bran ..	..	..	254
Fig. 76.	Bronze Socketed Celt : Near Llangollen..	..	..	255
LLANGOLLEN RURAL.				
Fig. 77.	Tumulus : Eglwyseg Rocks ..	..	..	258
Fig. 78.	Stone Circle : Eglwyseg Mountain ..	..	..	266
Fig. 79.	Plan of Pen-y-gaer Camp : Trevor ..	..	..	268
Fig. 80.	Rampart ditto ..	..	..	270
Fig. 81.	Stone Axe : Trevor Hall ..	..	..	271
Fig. 82.	Bronze Socketed Celt : Trevor ..	..	..	272
Fig. 83.	Bronze Socketed Spearheads : Eglwyseg Rocks	..	..	273
Fig. 84.	Penannular Brooch : Trevor Rocks ..	..	..	274
LLANGWM.				
Fig. 85.	Fragments of Cinerary Urn : Ystrad Fawr ..	..	..	278
Fig. 86.	Urn restored ..	..	..	279
Fig. 87.	Fragments of Food Vessel..	..	..	280
Fig. 88.	Food Vessel restored ..	..	..	281
Fig. 89.	Horse-shoe pavement : Dolpennau ..	..	..	283
Fig. 90.	Mace-head : Maesmor ..	..	..	284
LLANNEFYDD.				
Fig. 91.	Plan of Mynydd-y-gaer Camp ..	..	..	291
Fig. 92.	Fragment of Stone Axe : Foel Bach ..	..	..	295
LLANRHAIADR YM MOCHNANT.				
Fig. 93.	Plan of Bryn Dinas Camp..	..	..	300
Fig. 94.	Pillar Stone : Maes Mochnant Isaf ..	..	..	302
Fig. 95.	Pillar Stone : Village ..	..	..	303
Fig. 96.	Stone Hammer : River Iwrch ..	..	..	306
Fig. 97.	Perforated Whetstone : Tyn-y-graig ..	..	..	307
LLANRHAIADR-YN-CINMERCH.				
Fig. 98.	Earthwork : Coed Corniwhch ..	..	..	312
Fig. 99.	Earthwork : Hen Ddinbych ..	..	..	313
Fig. 100.	Stone Hammer : Hafod Lom ..	..	..	316

	<i>Page</i>
LLANRWST URBAN.	
Fig. 101. Bronze Armlet : Llwyn Erw	318
LLANRWST RURAL.	
Fig. 102. Plan of Maen Pebyll remains	320
Fig. 103. Maen Pebyll in 1850	321
Fig. 104. Maen Pebyll broken up	322
Fig. 105. Cromlech before excavation of 1924	323
Fig. 106. Plan	<i>Facing</i> 324
Fig. 107. Central and w. Chambers—work completed	325
Fig. 108. E. Chamber after treatment	325
Fig. 109. E. side of Passage	326
Fig. 110. Telephoto view from E.	326
Fig. 111. Urn No. 1 from Farm Yard tumulus	329
Fig. 112. Urn No. 2 ditto	331
Fig. 113. Stone Axe (No. 1) : Coedfa	337
Fig. 114. Stone Axe (No. 2) : Coedfa	338
Fig. 115. Stone Axe : Farm Yard	338
Fig. 116. Stone Axe : Pen-y-fron	340
Fig. 117. Stone Hammer : Pen-y-fron	341
Fig. 118. Bronze Spearhead : Nebo	342
Fig. 119. Iron Fire Dog : Capel Garmon	343
LLANSANNAN.	
Fig. 120. Flint Knife : Rhiwiau	353
LLANSANTFFRAID GLAN CONWAY.	
Fig. 121 : " Cromlech " : Hendre Waelod	355
Fig. 122. Trunnion Celt : Bryn Eisteddfod	357
LLANSILIN.	
Fig. 123. Map showing site of Mynydd y Bryn Cairn	359
Fig. 124. Beaker from Mynydd y Bryn Cairn	361
Fig. 125. Stone and Bronze Implements : Ty Newydd	362
LLANTYSILIO YN IAL.	
Fig. 126. Eliseg Pillar tumulus	365
Fig. 127. Plan of Moel y Gaer Camp	366
Fig. 128. Bronze Axes, etc.	368
Fig. 129. Roman Bronze Vessels : Coed Ial	370
Fig. 130. Handles of Vessels, ditto	370
Fig. 131. Inscription on handle of Vessel No. 2	371
Fig. 132. Section of Rivet	371
LLANYNYS RURAL.	
Fig. 133. Plan of Pwll-y-clai Camp	374
NANTGLYN.	
Fig. 134. Cinerary Urn : Gorsedd Bran tumulus	379
PENTREVOELAS.	
Fig. 135. Cists at Hafod-y-garreg	382
Fig. 136. Stone Hammer : Maes Gwyn	388
RUABON.	
Fig. 137. Sepulchral Urn : Bryn	393
Fig. 138. Ditto	393
Fig. 139. Plan of Y Gardden Camp	395

ST. GEORGE.

	<i>Page</i>
Fig. 140. Plan of Dinorben Camp	399
Fig. 141. Plans of entrances (S.E.) to the four successive forts on the site, as excavated	407
Fig. 142. Horse Trappings : Parc y Meirch	409
Fig. 143. Ditto.. .. .	410

TREFNANT.

Fig. 144. 1. Spindle Whorl, Tynlon. 2. Flint Axe, Tynlon. 3. Fragment of Palstave, Llanfairtalhaearn ..	413
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WREXHAM.

Fig. 145. Food Vessel : Hillbury tumulus	415
Fig. 146. Cinerary, ditto	416

INTRODUCTION.

A GENERAL SURVEY OF THE PREHISTORIC AND ROMAN REMAINS OF THE COUNTY.

In Wales ancient monuments, of one kind or another, are fairly evenly distributed over the whole country.

Denbighshire has its fair share of antiquities, and, though it cannot lay claim to many outstanding specimens, yet, as far as number and variety are concerned, it compares not unfavourably with the other counties of the Principality. The number of parishes in which there are no remains is small; most of them are to be found in the low-lying country forming the eastern portion of the county. Other areas of any considerable extent that are devoid of remains are: (1) the district to the east and south of Denbigh comprising the parishes of Llandyrnog, Llangwyfan, Llangynhafal, Llanychan, and portions of Llanyynys and Llanrhaidr; and (2) the district to the north-east of Llanrhaidr-ym-Mochnant, including the parishes of Llanarmon Mynydd Mawr, Llangadwaladr, and the bulk of Llansilin parish.

In the present survey, as well as in the descriptions which follow, the terminology employed will in the main be that recently adopted by the Ordnance Survey authorities.

Archaeological remains may be divided into two kinds, viz. (1) Sites of antiquarian interest, and (2) "Finds," or archaeological objects discovered, either in excavations of archaeological sites or by chance.

Prehistoric antiquities belonging to the former kind may be classified under the following heads:—

1. Ossiferous or Bone Caves.
2. Long Barrows and Long Cairns, and Burial Chambers.
3. Tumuli, or Round Barrows.
4. Stone and Earthen Circles.
5. Standing Stones.
6. Stone Avenues.
7. Camps.
8. Ancient Villages.

1. OSSIFEROUS CAVES. These are natural caves, usually in the limestone formation, containing in their floors deposits of animal and human bones, together with artefacts, such as flint flakes, horn and bone implements, and pottery. They were used for habitation, and also for sepulture, in Palaeolithic and Neolithic times.

Denbighshire is fortunate in possessing several ossiferous caves which have been explored. They are those in the parishes of Cefn (St. Asaph), Henllan, Llannefydd, and Llanarmon-yn-Ial. The exploration of these was conducted by the late Professor (afterwards Sir) W. Boyd Dawkins (died 1929) and the late Professor T. McKenny Hughes, of Cambridge, and full accounts are given in Professor Boyd Dawkins's valuable book *Cave Hunting* (1874). The Plas yn Cefn Cave had previously been examined (that is, in 1833) by the Rev. Edward Stanley, F.G.S. These caves yielded abundant remains of pleistocene and more recent fauna, for example, the hyena, rhinoceros,

cave bear, reindeer, bison, wolf, etc., as well as human bones, worked flints, and bone implements. In one of the Cefn group, that known as Y Bont Newydd Cave, scanty remains of Palaeolithic man are supposed to have been discovered.

2. LONG BARROWS AND LONG CAIRNS. These are mounds which when found intact are oval or oblong in shape, measuring usually from 100 to 150 feet in length, though occasionally the length of 300 feet is attained. One end is a little broader and higher than the other, being generally about six feet high. On either side of these barrows there is in some cases a broad, shallow ditch which is never continued round the ends; but no instance has been recorded from Wales. These monuments are constructed of soil or of stones. When the latter is the material or the predominant constituent the name Long Cairn is used. Inside the Barrows or Cairns in question are receptacles for the remains of the departed—one or more as the case may be—constructed of stones. These sepulchral stone structures are, roughly speaking, of two types, with variations. One type consists of a chamber (or series of chambers)—hence the name Chambered Barrow or Tomb—usually known in Wales as a “cromlech,”* that is, a structure composed of a huge stone called the cap-stone superimposed on three or more large slabs placed erect in the ground and spoken of as the “supporters” or “uprights.” The name “cromlech” means “arched stone,” and has reference to the covering or cap stone. As this name is given in Brittany to a stone circle—Kroumlec’h—British archaeologists now favour the name by which the structures under consideration are known in other European, in fact, in all civilized, countries, viz. “dolmen,” a word said to be of Breton origin and signifying, according to Le Gonidec, “table stone,” from *taol* or *tol* [Lat. *tabula*], “table,” and *méan* or *men*, “stone” [Welsh *maen*]. There is, however, no adequate reason for the supplanting of the name “cromlech” by “dolmen,” for the former is an equally appropriate appellation and far more applicable to the structures in question than to stone circles. In the Ordnance Survey Maps the term “Burial-chamber” will supersede “dolmen” and “cromlech” and similar terms, and will be used of barrows in certain cases where the chamber is the more conspicuous object.

It should be pointed out that the barrows containing burial-chambers of a megalithic character—cromlechs or dolmens—are not

* The earliest known literary use of the term “Cromlech” to designate a megalithic structure is usually supposed to be in the “Description of Pembrokeshire” by George Owen of Henllys (*Cymmrodorion Record Series*, No. 1, pl. i, p. 251 [ed. Henry Owen]): “An other thinge worth noteinge is the stone called *Maen y gromleg*h vpon *Pentre Jevan lande*: y^t is a huge and maffe stone mounted on highe and fett on the toppes of iij^{ee} other highe stones pitched fstandinge vpright in the ground.” There is, however, no reason to believe that G. Owen was the first to apply the term “Cromlech” to the Pentre Ifan monument (cf. Dr. J. E. Lloyd’s *History of Wales*, p. 11), “Maen y Gromleg” being the name by which it was known at the time. According to Dr. Murray’s *New English Dictionary* the first known occurrence of the word is in Bishop Grandison’s Register at Exeter, 1328–70, referring to a grant of land from Æthelstan (943) to one Buryan, which mentions in the boundary “Fossa quae tendit circa Rescel Cromleg.” J. E. Gover writes in *Antiquity*, 1928, p. 325 (“Cornish Place-names”), “Cromleg” occurs three times in the quaint form Grambler or Grumbler (*Gromleg*h 1327, 1504), but at none of these places are there any remains now visible, though ‘Cromlechs’ are to be found elsewhere in the county.”

invariably "long." In some instances they are round. A good example in Wales is the Bryn Celli Ddu (Anglesey) chambered tomb. This magnificent "cromlech" of the *allée couverte* type was enclosed within a large circular barrow.

In many cases these megalithic monuments represent practically all that remains of formerly existing barrows or cairns.

The sepulchral chamber or series of chambers inside the mound (which might be rectangular or circular) was connected with the outside by means of a covered alley or passage, made of stones, sometimes called "the gallery." This passage as a rule led to, and had its exit at, the broad end of the barrow or cairn, which was sometimes incurved. In some cases the entrance was in the side of the mound, near the middle. The other and less common type of burial structure found in long barrows or cairns is composed of stones of considerably smaller size than those of the chambered variety. The stones are placed on their ends or sides in the ground so as to form oblong chests or cists, with one or more stones covering them. These, which are more characteristic of Round Barrows, are called in Wales "Cist-feini" or "Cistiau maen" (singular, "Cistfaen"). "Cistfaen" (Stone-chest) occurs frequently as an element, for instance, in field-names. In the *Parochialia* (Edward Lhuyd) it (*Kistvaen*) is the term regularly used to designate the sepulchral structure under consideration (*see* i, 69, 97, 114*, 116; ii, 32, 42, 58, 106). Some of these cists also possess passages, or galleries, continuous with and differing but little structurally from them. Long Barrows and Cairns containing chambers and cists are believed to belong to the end of the Neolithic Age or the period of transition from that age to the Bronze Age. Did either type of stone sepulchral structure precede the other, or are both to be regarded as contemporary? Of these alternative views the former has met with most favour, the balance of opinion being in support of the supposition that the smaller and simpler type marks a stage in the degeneration rather than in the development of the larger and more elaborate. That may well have been the case in some countries, as for instance in Brittany. In Britain, however, it is not improbable that both types existed side by side, the character of the material available possibly determining the type of structure adopted. In our county there is no known example of an intact Long Barrow or Cairn. Up to the fifties of last century there was at least one that was not seriously disrupted, viz. at Capel Garmon (Llanrwst parish). Since the days of Edward Lhuyd, and before, the three chambers had been exposed to view at the top, and the capstones of two destroyed, but a great part of the barrow was apparently undisturbed. In 1853 the remains, having in the meantime been considerably reduced by the removal of stones for building walls, were subjected to excavation, when the chambers were cleared out and the gallery or entrance passage laid bare. This latter led to the middle chamber from the south side. At the east end was a recess which terminated in a false door.

* Occasionally, as in the case of the Hafod-y-maidd (Cerrig-y-drudion) structures, the name *Cistfaen* was applied to chambers.

Not far away are the remains, now somewhat meagre, of another barrow of a similar type. We refer to the remains near Nebo, known as Maen Pebyll. All that is left here are the fragments of a megalith, and sufficient of the base of the barrow to indicate its shape.

Another dismantled monument of the same character, a long cairn, is to be seen in the parish of Cefn, St. Asaph, in a field called Tyddyn Bleiddyn, belonging to the farm of Tan y Graig. Stone structures of the second type described above, consisting of cists and passages, were exposed in the cairn in 1869 and 1871, which contained a considerable number of skeletons in a contracted posture.

The scanty remains of one other long cairn are to be found in the parish of St. George.

In the parish of Llansantffraid Glan Conway, at Hendrewaelod, is a very fine "cromlech," to give the local designation. At present no certain evidence of a covering barrow or cairn can be detected.

3. TUMULI AND CAIRNS. A tumulus is a round mound of earth, and a cairn a round pile of stones. The Ordnance Survey authorities advocate the application of the term "tumulus" to both varieties. The only difference between tumuli and cairns is that of material, the purpose, viz. to contain or cover the remains of the dead, being identical. Cairns were erected where stones were abundant, and tumuli where only soil was obtainable. Tumuli at present are more numerous than cairns, the reason probably being that the latter were found useful as quarries whence to procure stones for building purposes. Cairns and their remains are now found with an occasional exception only on elevated and secluded spots where no use could be made of their material. The words "carn" and "carnedd," which frequently occur as elements in farm- and field-names, testify to the existence at one time of cairns on less elevated positions. Tumuli and cairns belong for the most part to the Bronze Age.

The human remains over which they were raised were cremated, except during the earliest phase of the age, when burial by inhumation was in vogue. Deposits of incinerated bones are found sometimes in cists, sometimes unprotected, and sometimes inside urns placed either in the soil or in cists. Usually there were more burials than one in the same mound, made at different times, the original being styled the primary interment, and the subsequent ones as secondary, tertiary, etc., interments.

In many tumuli there is a kerb or circle of standing stones, which is sometimes incomplete, under the margin or fringe. This, unless it had a religious significance, may have served as a retaining wall. Not infrequently the circle remains when the tumulus has disappeared. The uprights have often an outward lean, caused probably by the pressure of the material of the mound. It is not always easy to distinguish a tumulus from, (1) a natural mound of the same shape and size, especially in fields which have been under cultivation for many years, or, (2) in peat-producing districts, from stacks of peat intended for fuel but never removed. In some cases only an examination with the spade can decide. In the case of piles of stones also

it is in some instances almost impossible to be certain whether they are small cairns or heaps collected from the surface of the ground when the land was cultivated or prepared for pasture.

Tumuli are frequently composed of soil differing from that of their immediate surroundings.

In Denbighshire tumuli are fairly numerous, there being well over a hundred. Cairns are less numerous and are confined almost exclusively to isolated hills like Cynr-y-Brain (Llandegla), Ruabon Mountain, Eglwyseg and Trevor Rocks (Llangollen), the Berwyn range, and the Hiraethog uplands. Field names in the parishes of Llanferres, Llan-santffraid Glan Conway, Llanfairtalhaearn, etc., testify to the former existence of cairns on ground of lower elevation, whose stones were doubtless used for building purposes and road making. Occasionally one still finds cairns, more or less intact, on sites other than hills. One is to be seen, now partly robbed of its stones, in the parish of Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd.

The tumuli of Denbighshire, though more numerous on elevated positions, are to be found also in low-lying districts, there being a few in the wide Vale of Clwyd and on the extensive plain around Wrexham. In the narrower valleys, however, as, for instance, those of the Ceiriog, Cynlleth (Llansilin), Elwy, they are non-existent.

A large number of the tumuli and nearly all the cairns of the county have been tampered with, and a good many more or less completely destroyed. Agriculture is responsible for the reduction and even the disappearance of some, while treasure hunters, roadmen, and builders are answerable for the partial or total demolition of others. It is only in a small number of instances that any account of such ransacking or demolition has been preserved, as in the case of certain Llanarmon yn Ial, Nantglyn, and Llangwm (Ystrad Fawr) tumuli. A few tumuli have undergone more or less careful excavation. The late Judge Wynne Ffoulkes, of Ereiviat, conducted an examination of two in Glyn Traean or Pontfadog parish: one at Yr Orsedd Wen and the other at Bryn Bugeilyn. In the former human remains buried by inhumation were found, together with a bronze dagger and bits of iron. There was no vessel of any kind. The Bryn Bugeilyn tumulus contained an urn burial enclosed in a cist. Among the incinerated bones inside the urn was a beautifully-worked flint knife.

Judge Wynne Ffoulkes excavated also a tumulus in Henllan parish and two in Llansannan parish—Bedd Robin Hood and Rhiwiau tumulus. In the Henllan (Plas Heaton) tumulus several skeletons were brought to light, together with a beaker; also incinerated bones and fragments of an urn representing a secondary interment. Neither of the Llansannan tumuli yielded anything of interest, but an urn containing bones and a bronze dagger is reported to have been discovered previously in the Rhiwiau tumulus.

More recently two tumuli in the Llanrwst district were systematically excavated under the able superintendence of Mr. [now Dr.] Willoughby Gardner, F.S.A., of Deganwy: one on Mwdwl Eithin, above Eglwysbach, and the other on Farm Yard, about two miles

N.E. of Llanrwst. The former contained two unprotected cremation interments and one urn burial, and the latter one unprotected cremation interment (primary) and two urn burials (secondary).

Tumuli and cairns are called by several names in Wales, such as "gorsedd," "tomen," "poncyn," "crug," "twmpath," "gwyddfa," "bedd," "carnedd," and "carn." "Gorsedd" means "high seat, throne." The word was probably applied to artificial mounds and natural eminences because these were actually used, or were supposed to have been used, as places of assembly, the chieftain's seat being on the mound or hillock. In Denbighshire the name *gorsedd* is of frequent occurrence, but only in a few instances does it at present indicate the presence of a barrow, as for example in "Gorsedd Bran" (Nantglyn parish), "Yr Orsedd Wen" (Glyn Traean), and "Pen-yr-Orsedd" (Glan Conway). In "Gorsedd Grugyn," in Llanrwst parish, it also refers to a tumulus, which no longer remains. "Tomen" (tump) is applied to tumuli in the parishes of Llangadwaladr ("Tomen y Gwyddel") and Llansantffraid Glyn Ceiriog ("Tomen y Meirw"). More frequently it denotes a "motte" or "castle-mount," e.g. Tomen y Rhodwydd and Tomen y Faerdre, in Llanarmon yn Ial parish. Other examples are in Llanrhaiadr ym Mochnant parish—"Tomen y Maerdy" and "Tomen Cefn Glaniwrch." Once the shortened form "tom" occurs as the name of a tumulus, viz. "Tom Don-gen" (Llan-elidan). "Poncyn" or "Boncyn," from the English *bank*, is to be met with twice in the county: "Poncyn Crwn," in Llansannan parish, and "Y Boncyn Arian," in Llanrhaiadr yn Cinmerch parish. "Crug" is not found in our county. "Twmpath" is a name that occurs, but in no instance at present as that of a tumulus. "Gwyddfa" appears as an element in a field-name—"Maes y Wyddfa"—in the parish of Aberwhiler (on Tynycelyn Farm), but there is no barrow. "Bedd" constitutes the first element in the name of two or three tumuli, e.g. "Bedd Robin Hood" (Llansannan) and "Bedd Carrog" (Eglwys Bach). At "Bedd Emlyn," in Clocaenog parish, where there were formerly two standing stones, one bearing an inscription—now at Pool Park—no evidence of an artificial mound is visible. "Carnedd," which is the usual name for a cairn, occurs a good number of times in our county. In most instances, however, the cairn has totally disappeared. In the case of "Y Garnedd Wen" (Llanarmon D.C.), "Y Garnedd Wen" (Llanrwst), and a few more *carnedd*-sites, remains more or less slight are left. There is no cairn or cairn-site in the county bearing the name of "Carn" at present, but formerly there was one in Llanfair D.C., viz. Carn Owyll on Mynydd Cricor. The word is frequently applied to a mountain or hill as distinct from a cairn. A case in point in Denbighshire is Carn Brys, in the parish of Cerrig-y-drudion, on the top of which is no cairn. "The word *Carn*," so writes Mr. Egerton Phillimore (*Owen's Pembrokeshire*, i, 46, cf. ii, 567), "anciently meant (as it ordinarily does in Cornish and also, it is believed, in Pembrokeshire Welsh) 'a rock' as well as 'a cairn'."

Before the subject of tumuli is disposed of reference should be made to the class known as "Disc Barrows." This type consists "of a very small mound of earth, seldom more than a foot high, surrounded

at a distance of several yards by a circular ditch with the bank on the outside." "Disc Barrows are burial mounds of a peculiar ceremonial kind. They have often been found on excavation to contain the body of a woman; but sometimes the interment had been cremated."* In England these are fairly numerous round Stonehenge (Wiltshire), but rare elsewhere. Neither in our county nor in the rest of Wales are there certain examples of this type. Possibly they may be represented by some of the earth circles that are to be found here and there all over the land (*see* the next section—"Circles"). Disc Barrows are, of course, very liable to have all traces of them obliterated.

"Pillow-mounds." At this stage a few words about these may be added. They are low rectangular mounds, found as a rule in or near camps. In the north they are called "Giants' graves." Denbighshire possesses one group—on Bryn Euryn (Llandrillo). Other examples in Wales are in (a) Montgomeryshire, Llanfihangel yng Ngwynfa parish, called "Soldiers' Graves" [Montgomeryshire *Inventory*, No. 463]; (b) Cardiganshire, Llanfair Clydogau parish [*Ibidem*]; (c) and (d) Radnorshire, Llanelwedd parish, and parish of Llanfihangel nant Melan [Radnorshire *Inventory*, Nos. 327, 355A]; (e) Monmouthshire, Dingeston parish [*Antiquity*, 1928, p. 205].

Their purpose is not known. One theory is that they are artificial rabbit warrens. Dr. Francis Nilly (*Antiquaries Journal*, 1929, p. 159) suggests that "their builders may have been influenced by some superstition which would explain the selection of sites [in or near camps], the presence of pottery [found in the Sutton (Craven) and Rathwell (Giggleswick) examples], the numbers in the groups [usually three or nine], and their orientation [a little west of north or at right angles to that direction]." "The distribution hints at a connexion with the dark ages about A.D. 700."

4. STONE CIRCLES AND CIRCULAR BANKS. These are of various kinds, and may be divided into (a) stone-circles and circular banks properly so called, (b) those that formed kerbs or retaining walls in tumuli and were originally covered by the mounds, and (c) those that were used as dwellings—hut circles.

(a) Denbighshire can boast but very few stone-circles properly so called. The finest example in the county, to our knowledge, is, or rather was, in Cyffylliog parish, on the moor, nearly three miles s.w. of the village. Unfortunately this has recently been robbed of all its stones except three. The holes, however, remain at present, which show the number and sizes of the stones removed. This circle has a small round mound in the centre.

Besides "stone-circles" there are also "earth circles" or "circular banks or rings of stone and earth." These, like the stone-circles, vary in size, some being quite large. In certain cases there is a ditch on the inner side of the bank. Some of these may be "Disc Barrows." There is only a small number in our county. One is to be seen near Capel Hiraethog, in Cyffylliog parish, a short distance from the damaged stone circle just referred to. Another fine one, the enclosing bank of which is composed of earth and stone, is situated

* "Notes on Archaeology for guidance in the field" (Ordnance Survey).

less than $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the N. of Hafoty Wen Farmhouse, in Cyffylliog parish. A somewhat small one on Eglwyseg mountain may also be mentioned. Other examples, much tampered with, are in the parish of Llanfihangel Glyn Myfyr, within $\frac{1}{2}$ m., in a N.W. direction, of the parish church.

(b) In addition to the larger stone circles and circular banks already dealt with, which range in circumference from 50 yds. or so upwards, there are other smaller ones ranging in diameter from 3 yds. or thereabouts upwards. Many, if not all, of these originally formed the kerbs of tumuli or cairns. A good example lies on the Eglwyseg Rocks, 2 m. N.N.E. of Llangollen. The diameter of this is 11 paces. Another, but smaller, ring of stones is to be seen near the Alwen Waterworks, about $2\frac{3}{4}$ m. N. of Cerrig-y-drudion. This is $3\frac{1}{2}$ yds. in diameter. Until comparatively recently there was a fine kerb-circle, with a filling of earth or rubble between the stones, near the Hiraethog earth ring mentioned above. Now there remains only the earthen bank—the margin of a tumulus long since destroyed for the sake of the stones it contained.

(c) Some of the smaller circles and circular banks were dwellings (hut-circles). These usually occur in groups, in which case they come for consideration under "Ancient Villages."

Before leaving the subject of circles a few words may be said with reference to the purpose of those which neither formed the kerbs of tumuli nor were huts. Some, there can be little doubt, were sepulchral, and among these may be counted in all probability the Hiraethog stone circle with the small mound in the centre mentioned above. The larger stone-circles, of which our county has no examples, may have been used for assemblies of various character—religious, or judicial, or legislative.* What purpose earthen circles, which may not have been sepulchral (Disc Barrows?), served can only be a matter of conjecture at the present stage of our knowledge.

5. STANDING OR PILLAR STONES (Meini Hirion). By these are meant stones placed in erect positions by man. They are found singly or in groups. Those found in groups may in some cases be the relics of burial chambers or circles. Some single stones also may be the sole remaining representatives of such monuments. Maen Pebyll near Nebo in Llanrwst parish, before it was blasted about 1850, is a case in point. This was a solitary huge block standing on the site of a long cairn. As to isolated standing stones which originally formed no part of prehistoric monuments like burial chambers and circles, there is considerable uncertainty with regard to both their date and purpose. It is not improbable that they belong to different periods and served different purposes. Some, it is known, marked graves, human remains having been discovered in the ground beneath them. Others may have been boundary or land-marks. A certain number, no doubt, had a religious significance. There is evidence that in Brittany standing stones were objects of worship. In Christian times crosses were placed on the top of some and carved on others in order apparently to

* Dr. R. A. S. Macalister (*The Archaeology of Ireland*, 1928, p. 108) has broached the theory that the circle "tells us of a pantheon [temple common to all gods] with a chief god," the latter represented by a standing stone outside the circle—the "pointer" of those who seek astronomical significance in the orientation of circles.

turn them from pagan to Christian cult. Among the Hebrews the *matztzēbāh* (Standing Stone) was a common accessory to worship. In I Kings, xiv, we read of Judah building "them high places, and pillars, and Asherim on every high hill, and under every green tree." In Genesis xxxiii, 20, Jacob is stated to have erected at Shechem "an altar and called it El-elohe-Israel." The verb "set up"—"made to stand"—which is not used of building an altar, shows that a *matztzēbāh* and not an altar—a word which is very similar to it—is meant. The name given to it, viz. "God, the God of Israel," also implies an image rather than an altar. It was believed that the deity resided in these pillar stones or was symbolised by them.

By far the finest examples of standing stones in the county of Denbigh are the two in Llanrhaidr-ym-Mochnant parish, one in the village and the other on the farm of Maes Mochnant Isaf, the latter being over eleven feet in height. Those in the churchyards of Gwytherin and Llangernyw may also be mentioned. The four in the former churchyard, one of which bears an inscription belonging to the 6th or 7th century A.D., may have been set up at that time or they may have been there previously. Two of the four Llangernyw stones, on one of which a cross is carved, may or may not date from Christian times. The other two, if not placed where they are by nature, are probably of pre-Christian date. In some instances standing stones are found on the summit of tumuli. There is at least one example in this county, viz. in Bryneglwys parish (Rhos-yr-hirfaen). Another tumulus in the county has a stone planted on the top, but in this case the stone may be a boundary mark. The tumulus in question stands close to, or on, the boundary line between the parishes of Esclusham Above, Llangollen, and Penycæ. A third mound with an erect stone placed on the apex is in the churchyard of Llanarmon Dyffryn Ceiriog. Whether the stone is contemporary with the mound, and whether the mound is sepulchral, we cannot tell. Formerly there was, it would seem,* a standing stone—"an erect pillar"—on the Cader Fronwen (Llanarmon D.C.) tumulus. In this connection reference may be made to a class of stones known as "Meini" and "Cerrig Llwydion" (Singular: "Maen Llwyd" and "Carreg Llwyd"). These are common all over Wales. Field names testify to the existence at one time of at least about thirty in the county of Denbigh. Several of these still remain. Nearly all of them are boulders or erratics lying where nature left them. The epithet "llwyd," which in some instances of its use signifies "holy," as in the expressions, "Duw Llwyd," "Iesu Llwyd," "Mari Llwyd," has been supposed to indicate the sacred character of these stones. There is, however, no warrant for this. The adjective simply describes their colour—"grey." No archaeological significance seems to attach to them. We have, therefore, ignored them with very few exceptions.

6. STONE ROWS AND AVENUES. A "row" is a single straight line of stones placed, as a rule, at irregular intervals. An "avenue" is a double row. They vary considerably in length. The name "alignment" is sometimes used for a row. To this class of monument

* *Tours* (Pennant), ii, 197.

belong the wonderful multiple alignments of Le Menec, Kermario, and Kerlescan, in Carnac, Brittany. There is nothing like these in Britain, but several stone avenues exist, such as those connected with the Stone Circles of Avebury and Stonehenge in England, and, in Wales, the miniature (as compared with the foregoing) avenue with its circle in the Montgomeryshire portion of Llanrhaiadr ym Mochnant parish—Cerrig-y-beddau.

The only surviving examples in Denbighshire, and they are unimpressive, are in the parish of Pentrevoelas. These, however, are not unimportant, as they are probably unique in Wales. For a parallel, *see* the R.C.A.M. Report on the County of Sutherland (Kindonnan parish), p. 133.

7. CAMPS. This term includes all fortified areas. Most prehistoric camps are fortified hill tops to which the name "hill-forts" is frequently given. In shape or plan they are generally more or less circular owing to the fact that they follow the configuration of the hills. They are very seldom rectangular; there is no example in our county. The fortifications consist of ramparts made of earth, rubble, or stone—either heaped up or built into walls, the nature of the ramparts depending on the material that was most easily obtained.* Ramparts were usually supplemented by ditches on the outside with counterscarps. Forts without ditches are apparently earlier in date than those which possess them. On their weak sides, camps are generally defended by a series of two, three, or more ramparts and ditches. Of entrances there are various types, such as the straight passage through the rampart or ramparts, the bottle-neck, and the incurved. Some entrances were provided with guardrooms. Prehistoric camps had sometimes one entrance, sometimes two, or more.

Judging by the evidence available from those that have been excavated, and from casual finds, the majority of these are perhaps to be assigned to the Iron Age, that is, the few centuries immediately preceding our era, and to the period of the Roman occupation. There were camps constructed in Neolithic times and in the Bronze Age. Some of ours may possibly belong to those early periods, and some to post-Roman times.

Denbighshire is quite rich in camps, there being altogether 25 or 26 within the bounds of the county. These are of different sizes and of varying degrees of strength. To classify them, however, is no easy task. The "hill-forts" of Moel Fenlli, Moel y Gaer, Penycloddiau (of which only a small portion falls within the limits of our county), Moel y Gaer (Llantysilio), Bryn Euryn (Llandrillo), Pen-y-Corddyn, Castell Cawr (Abergele), Craig Adwy Wynt (Llanfair D.C.), Parc-y-meirch (St. George), Cerrig Gwynion (Llanarmon D. Ceiriog), Y Gardden (Ruabon), Caer Caradog (near Cerrig-y-drudion), Bryn Dinas (near Llangedwyn), Dinas Bran (Llangollen), have certain characteristics in common, though their defences vary considerably in strength, some like Parc y Meirch, for instance, having formidable fortifications,

* Denbighshire camps do not furnish data which justify a distinction between those whose ramparts are respectively of stone and of earth.

while others, Penycorddyn and Bryn Euryn, for example, have somewhat weak ones. With the camps just enumerated should probably be classed the Gaer at Broughton, the defences of which have to a great extent been obliterated by building operations, etc. Pen y Gaer, above Trevor, Llangollen, was originally protected on one side by a strong stone agger—a unique feature in our county. On the N. side, however, where the camp is dominated by higher ground, the defences, at present at all events, are inconsiderable. Bedd y Cawr (Cefn parish) is apparently an incomplete camp. Pen y Gaer (Efenechtyd) is an embanked enclosure situated on a more or less level area, intended probably for a kraal rather than for a fortress. Of the two Llai Camps, that occupying the northern half of the bend of the River Alun—Bryn Alun—is somewhat small, but is well protected, especially on the E. side, where two large ramparts lie across the neck of land. The other Llai Camp, the Gaer, is a level-ground enclosure, having somewhat weak defences, and could hardly have been used for protective purposes. Caer Ddunod (Llanfihangel Glyn Myfyr) is a very small hill camp, possessing at present but meagre remains of fortifications. Two other small and weak examples are the Gaer at Erw Goch, in Llansantffraid Glan Conway parish, and Bron yr Athro, in Llangedwyn parish. Caer Gerrig, in Llangwm parish, is at present but a site, all traces of defences having been swept away. The same remark is more or less applicable to the Gaer, in Ysbyty parish, close to Pentrevoelas village. Several of the Denbighshire camps have been partly excavated, viz. Moel Fenlli and Moel y Gaer, in the Clwydian range, Pen y Corddyn, near Llanddulas, Parc y Meirch (St. George), and Pen y Gaer, Trevor. The first two were subjected to a partial examination by Mr. Wynne Ffoulkes in 1849. The results were disappointing, but some of the few finds made showed that the camps were occupied in Roman times, although not necessarily by Roman soldiers. Pen y Corddyn was excavated under the supervision of Mr. [now Dr.] Willoughby Gardner, F.S.A., in 1906. The finds here again were very meagre, and devoid of value. Parc y Meirch or Dinorben was also excavated under Mr. Gardner's able superintendence, the work being carried on for periods of varying length during the summers of 1912, 1913, 1914, 1919, and 1922. The revelations made here were most remarkable, showing, as they did, that the camp was successively built and destroyed four times. The finds were numerous, the bulk of them articles of the Roman period, such as coins, which numbered about 200. Few of the finds belonged to the Bronze Age culture. This camp must have been a busy place during the Roman occupation of Britain, and was possibly held by the natives for the Romans.

The Pen y Gaer Camp, Trevor, Llangollen, was excavated at various points in 1918-9 by the Ruabon Field Club. In this case the results were very disappointing, nothing being discovered whereby the date and purpose of the camp could be ascertained.

Before leaving the subject of camps, a few words may be said about the names by which they are designated. Of these "Caer" is probably the most common. The word was formerly supposed to be derived

from the Latin *Castrum* or *Castra*, for which it frequently stands, as for example in the case of Chester—*Caerlleon* (Castralegonis). “Caer,” however, comes from the Latin *cadrum* (=quadrum, “a square”—an appropriate designation of a Roman Camp), as has been pointed out by Prof. J. Glyn Davies (see *Y Cymmrodor*, vol. xxvii, p. 148n). We may compare the French word *cadre* and the Breton *ker*, which have the same origin.

Another name is *din*, which occurs as the first element in several Denbighshire camp-names, e.g. Dinorben, Din Cadfel, Dinarth, Dinhengroen. This word, in the form of *dun*, is also found in England and Scotland. In Ireland, where it assumes the forms of *dun*, *doon*, or *don*, it occurs, according to Joyce (*Irish Names of Places*, vol. i, p. 278), as the first syllable of the names of more than 600 townlands, towns, and parishes. In Cornwall and Brittany this fort-name is rare. Examples in the former are Tintagel and Pendeen, and in the latter Dinan and Dinard. It is highly probably that our *din* is identical with *dunum*,* the termination of several place-names in Gaul, mentioned, for instance, by Caesar in his *De bello Gallico*:—Uxello-dunum, Lugdunum, Novio-dunum, etc. “Din” occasionally occurs as an element in place-names which apparently have no reference to forts. We may mention Dinbych, *i.e.* Denbigh (if it is not of English origin), Dinmael (near Corwen), and Dinhunlle (near Ruabon) in our county; Dinmeirchion (now Tremeirchion) in Flintshire may be compared. *Dinas*, which is formed from *din*, is another camp-name. In our county two forts bear this name, viz. Bryn Dinas (near Llangedwyn) and Dinas Bran (Llangollen). From Llewelyn ap Iorwerth’s charter to the monks of Aberconway it would appear that Caerddunod (Llanfihangel Glyn Myfyr) was in the 12th century called Dinas Dindunawd (cf. the words: “Pwlle propinquiorei Taldinas Dindunant contra Alwen. . . . Pwlle juxta Tal ipsius dinas”). The combination “Dinas Dindunawd” implies that the meaning of *din* had become obsolete. We may compare Dinas Dinlleu in Caernarvonshire. “Dinas” occurs occasionally, owing to the resemblance (real or fancied) of natural features to fortifications, as the name of sites which are devoid of artificial defences or fortifications. “Dinas Mawr,” in Llanrwst parish, opposite the turning to Penmachno from the Bettws-coed and Pentrevoelas road, is a case in point.

Castell (Lat. *Castellum*, Eng. *Castle*), which in Caernarvonshire is frequently applied to earthworks, occurs in Denbighshire only once as the name of an ancient camp, viz. Castell Cawr, Abergele. The word, however, is several times found as the name of places where no remains of a fort of any description exist. It so occurs in Cerrig-y-drudion parish, 1½ m. N.N.E. of the village, and in Llangernyw parish, Cefny-castell, 1½ m. N. of Gwytherin village. The word generally used for “camp” in modern Welsh is *gwersyll* (*Gwersyllu*=to encamp). It occurs several times in the Welsh Old Testament (1588). It is not, however, applied as a name to any of our hill-forts, but “Gwersyllt,” which is the same word, is found as the name of a parish in Denbighshire.

* Cf. J. Loth (*Bulletin de la Société Archéologique de Finistère*, Tome lii [1925], pp. 109–10).

The word is not Welsh, but is derived from the Old English *weardseld* or *weardsetl*, signifying "guard place," "watch tower," cf. *Weardsetl* in Hampshire, and *Warshill Top* in Worcestershire. In "Original Documents," published by the *Cambrian Archaeological Association* (p. cxi, A.D. 1564), "Gwersyllt" appears as "Gwersilt," "Wershull," "Wershulte." It is not known what gave origin to the name. The enormous embankments at the "Wauns," which have been held by some to be artificial and the ramparts of a camp, are without the least doubt the work of nature.

8. ANCIENT VILLAGES. These, which are to be found for the most part on elevated positions, such as mountain tops and slopes, consist of a number of small circular and sometimes rectangular huts, in rare instances enclosed within a large earthen or stone ring. Such settlements occur singly or in groups. In some cases they are to be found inside and immediately contiguous to hill forts. The average diameter of hut circles is 5 or 6 yds.

Our county can lay claim to but very few ancient villages. At all events few have up to the present been discovered. Among the examples that are known to the writer may be mentioned those to be seen on Derwen and Clocaenog moors, on the slope of a hill a mile or so to the s. of the Alwen reservoir, Cerrig-y-drudion, and on the hill—Bryn Heilyn—to the s.w. of Pentre-llyn-cymer, where a good number of dwellings in small groups are to be found.

The name usually given to them in Welsh is *Cytiau Gwyddelod*, that is, "Goidels' or Irishmen's huts."

ROMAN PERIOD (43–420 A.D.).

The principal antiquities belonging to the period of the Roman occupation are:—(1) Camps, (2) Villas, (3) Smelting furnaces, (4) Brick or tile works, (5) Mines, (6) Roads.

(1) *Camps*. Roman camps are quadrilateral, and never circular (like those which owe their origin to natives), with an entrance in each of the four sides. They are to be found on slightly elevated ground but never on hill-tops.

No Roman camp or station has so far been discovered in Denbighshire. *Varae* or *Varis*, distant from *Deva* 32 m., and from *Conovium* 18 m., which has not yet been definitely identified, must have stood near the boundary line between the present counties of Denbigh and Flint, but almost certainly in the latter—in all probability at *St. Asaph*.

(2) *Villas*. By "villas" are meant isolated private dwellings. Very few of these have been found in Wales, where the evidences of occupation are predominantly military. No trace of a villa has been detected in our county.

(3) *Smelting furnaces*. In the adjoining county of Flint it was suspected as long ago as the time of Camden that furnaces for smelting lead existed at *Pentre Ffwdan*, near Flint. Excavations carried out in the summers of 1923 and 1924 in the locality have abundantly confirmed those suspicions (see vol. x, pts. 1 and 2, of the publications

of the *Flintshire Historical Society*: Report on the Excavations carried out at Pentre, Flint). In Denbighshire no furnaces have been discovered.

(4) *Brick-kilns*. Of this type of Roman remains we have one example in our county, viz. at Holt, near Wrexham, and that an example of first-rate importance. A full account of the discovery of the site in 1906 by the late Mr. A. N. Palmer, and of its excavation in 1907-13 by Mr. T. A. Acton, is given in the text, under the parish of Holt.

(5) *Mines*. It is said that evidence was discovered years ago of the working of a mine at Ffos y Bleiddiaid (or Ffos y Rhufeiniaid ?), a natural cleft in the mountain near the camp of Castell Cawr, Abergele. Mining operations have been conducted on the mountain close to the cleft in modern times, but the evidence that the Romans worked here cannot be regarded as conclusive, inasmuch as it lacks circumstantiality and cannot now be tested.

(6) *Roads*. One Roman road at least traversed our county, that which led from Deva via Varae to Conovium. If Varae is to be located at St. Asaph, then the course of the road in all probability should be identified with the straight road, Sarn Rug, which for a short run forms the boundary between the counties of Flint and Denbigh. So far, however, no tangible evidence of its position has been discovered here, or farther west, where its exact course is still more a matter of conjecture. One thing, however, is certain, viz. that it made for Caerhun, on the Conway River.

Another Roman road, in all probability, crossed a portion of the county, viz. that from Caer Gai, near Bala, to Deva (Chester). A short stretch of this is possibly to be seen on either side of the village of Llandegla.

FINDS.

By "finds" we mean articles discovered either in the course of the systematic excavation of sites of archaeological importance or by chance, whether on such sites or elsewhere, especially these latter—chance finds. These may be classified according to the ages to which they presumably belong.

I. THE PALAEOLITHIC OR OLD STONE AGE. The commonest relics of this age are implements made of stone. These, where they are found, illustrate various stages of advance in a prolonged period of progressive culture. The stone used for implements in this age was flint. Bone, reindeer horn, and ivory were also extensively employed in the later stages of the Palaeolithic age for needles, spear-heads, harpoons, etc. But, as no examples of palaeolithic artefacts have been discovered in Denbighshire, no further notice need here be taken of this age.

II. THE NEOLITHIC OR NEW STONE AGE. The remains of this age, which may tentatively be said to have begun between 8000 and 5000 B.C., are the following:—

1. Stone implements. The implements of the Neolithic Age were of superior workmanship to those of the Palaeolithic Age, and

stones other than flint were widely used. Many of the stone axes or celts of this period were beautifully polished, and some of the flint artefacts were veritable works of art.

Stone axes are divided into three classes according to their shapes : (a) those with pointed butt ends and cutting edges of oval outline ; (b) those with broader butts and straighter cutting edges ; and (c) those with squared sides. These various types are believed to mark a chronological sequence.

In Denbighshire a fair number of stone celts have been found. We have not, however, attempted to classify them. The bulk would seem to belong to the middle class. Among the examples known are the following :—One from Rhos Ddigre Cave, Llanarmon yn Ial (polished) ; one from Bryniau, in the same parish (polished) ; two from Coedfa, near Bettws-y-Coed (partly polished) ; two from Pen-y-fron, Llanrwst (one polished and one rude) ; two from Hafod Fawr, Llangernyw (of flint, one polished, and the other rough), both lost sight of ; two from Foel Fawr, same parish (one a long specimen—lost) ; one from Colwyn Bay (polished) ; one from Trevor Hall, Llangollen (a fragment) ; one from Farm Yard, Llanrwst (smoothed, but apparently unfinished) ; one from Tynlon, Trefnant (flint, polished, butt broken off) ; one from Abergele (polished) ; one from Llwyn Ynn, Llanfair D.C. (polished, a beautiful example) ; a fragment of a polished celt from Foel Bach, Llanfeydd.

The great majority of the stone celts discovered in our county seem to have emanated from the Graig Lwyd Neolithic axe factory, Penmaenmawr, which was discovered in 1919 by Mr. S. Hazzledine Warren (*Arch. Camb.*, 1922, pp. 1 ff., cf. 1927, pp. 141–6). One, viz. that from Trefnant, and apparently the two from Hafod Fawr, Llangernyw, as has been pointed out, were made of flint.

Other stone implements, such as hammers, are dealt with under the Bronze Age, to which period most are to be assigned.

2. Pottery. Coarse pottery was made in Neolithic times, but very little has been brought to light in our county. Nine fragments representing two vessels were discovered by Prof. W. Boyd Dawkins in one of the Llanarmon-yn-Ial caves, that is, that at Rhos Ddigre, explored by him in 1869–72. An undecorated portion of the rim of a vessel was also discovered by Mr. W. J. Hemp in the passage of the Capel Garmon Chambered Long Cairn.

3. Flint implements. Very few flint artefacts of the Neolithic Age are reported from our county. Nine flints were picked up by Prof. Boyd Dawkins in the Rhos Ddigre cave (Llanarmon-yn-Ial), to which reference has just been made. Of these, one was possibly a knife, another a scraper—both somewhat rude specimens, and the rest mere chips. No flint spear and arrow-heads have been recorded from Denbighshire.

III. THE BRONZE AGE. This age, which commenced about 2000 B.C. and ended about 500 B.C., is divided by Archaeologists into various periods or phases. Montelius adopted a five-fold division, and was followed by Déchelette and Abercromby. Dr. Cyril Fox prefers for Britain a division into two phases, with three periods for the

first, viz. Transition, Early Bronze, and Middle Bronze, and one period, i.e. Late Bronze, for the second (*The Archaeology of the Cambridge Region*, 1923, p. 20). Dr. R. E. Mortimer Wheeler (*Prehistoric and Roman Wales*, pp. 127–130) advocates a division into three phases of 500 years each : Early, Middle, and Late Bronze Age.

The portable or movable remains of this age are considerable, and consist of stone and bronze implements, ornaments, and pottery.

1. *Stone Implements.* In the Early Phase of the Bronze Age implements of flint and other stone were extensively used.

(a) *Flint Implements.* These register a distinct advance on those of the Neolithic Age. They are generally skilfully and beautifully made, some being veritable works of art. They include arrow-heads, barbed and tanged, and knives. That the Bronze Age man of Denbighshire used flint arrow-heads there can be little doubt, but so far no finds have been recorded. Within two miles of the boundary, that is, on the mountain between Ysbyty Ifan and Penmachno, a tanged and barbed arrow-head was picked up about the year 1927. Of flint knives, at least two have been discovered. One comes from a barrow at Bryn Bugeilyn (Glyn Traean parish), which was opened by Mr. Wynne Ffoulkes in 1850. According to Dr. Mortimer Wheeler, this is one of the finest examples of flint-working known from Wales. It is about 4 in. long. The other knife was picked up in the next field to that in which the Rhiwiau tumulus—dug into more than once—stands. This is about 2 in. long, very finely chipped, and worked to a point at one end, the other end, the striking plane, being left untouched.

(b) *Stone Hammers.* All hammers will be dealt with here, though some of them may belong to the Neolithic Age. Those discovered in our county represent various types.

(1) *Axe-hammers.* These have a broad butt end for knocking and a pointed or wedge end for cleaving. Two fine examples have been brought to light in our county, one emanating from Plas Isaf, Llangernyw parish (weight, 5 lbs., with perforation nearer the butt than the cutting edge), and the other from Tir-y-Barwn, Llanfihangel G.M. parish (a massive specimen with perforation nearer the thick end). It has been suggested, and not unreasonably, that these were used for quarrying purposes.

(2) *Hammers proper.* Both ends in these were intended for knocking. One example of the large or sledge variety has been turned up in Denbighshire, viz. at Maes Gwyn, Pentrevoelas. Unfortunately only a fragment survives. A beautifully-worked small, oblong hammer with rounded corners and a cylindrical perforation nearer one end is recorded from the neighbourhood of Hen Ddinbych, Llanrhaiadr yn Cinmerch parish. A polished rectangular specimen with the perforation only started from one side was picked up at Bwlch Pen Barras, in Llanbedr parish.

(3) *Mace-heads.* A remarkable example of white chalcedony, skilfully carved all over with lozenge-shaped ornament, was discovered at Maesmor, in Llangwm parish.

(4) *Spherical Hammer-stones.* One of this type comes from Tynewydd, Llansilin.

(5) Pierced Circular Stones. We may mention two examples from our county: from the parishes of Llanarmon-yn-Ial and Llanrwst respectively. It is not certain for what purpose these were made. Some suggestions are that they were used as hammers, or mace-heads, or net-sinkers, or for smoothing lance shafts, or as missiles for hurling from sticks. The hour-glass form of the perforation in these objects may possibly point to their belonging to Neolithic times.

2. *Bronze Implements.* Various kinds of implements were made of bronze, which is an alloy of copper and tin in the ratio of ten parts of the former to one of the latter.

(a) Axes or Celts. The earliest examples of these (usually in copper) were copies of the stone axe, but far less thick—plain blades, called “flat axes.” From this primitive type were evolved in succession the following varieties, viz. the flat with expanding cutting edge, the flanged, the flanged with stop ridges, the flanged with stop-ridges and loop, the socketed and looped. The variety having the stop-ridges merged into the flanges is generally known as the palstave, a word of Icelandic origin (paalstab). A good number of bronze celts have been discovered in Denbighshire. They total over thirty, including those contained in two small hoards. The hoards in question belong to the parishes of Acton and Llantysilio. The former, discovered before 1874, consisted of seven palstaves, three celts without stop-ridges, the tang of a fractured celt, and a dagger. The latter, the circumstances of the discovery of which are unknown, comprised three socketed axes, a socketed knife, and a spearhead. No examples of the bronze or copper analogue of the stone celt—the flat axe—have been found in the county, or, indeed, in Wales. Nor have any flat axes with expanding edges been discovered in our area. The earliest example apparently from Denbighshire—an expanding flat axe with slight flanges cast—was picked up near the Llanarmon Dyffryn Ceiriog Camp (Cerrig Gwynion). The bulk of Denbighshire axes consist of the palstave and socketed varieties with loops. None of these were discovered in tumuli. Reference must at this point be made to two rare specimens of axes, or perhaps we should call them chisels. One formed part of the Rhosnesney (Acton, Wrexham) hoard. It is a long and narrow implement with a widely expanding cutting edge, a slightly expanding butt, and flanged sides. The other is a Trunnion axe or chisel described by Mr. W. J. Hemp, F.S.A., in the *Antiquaries Journal* for January, 1925. It is not certain, but highly probable, that this—one of the two examples which he records from Wales—can be assigned to our county, as it was found at Bryn Eisteddfod, Glan Conway, by the owner, Mr. W. C. B. Jones-Mortimer, when he came into the property. Trunnioned chisels are long, narrow, flat implements, with slightly expanding edges, and projections—trunnions or lugs—about midway on the sides, resembling in our example barbs, their purpose being to stop the tool from getting too far into the haft. They belong to the last phase of the Bronze Age.

(b) Halberds. These are heavy blades, measuring roughly about a foot in length and 4 in. across the haft end, which are attached at right angles, by means of rivets, to long wooden shafts. None are

certainly known to have been found in our county. That said to have been discovered with a knife, about 4 in. long, near Wrexham, and now preserved at the British Museum, has been proved to emanate from Wroxeter, Salop (*Arch. Camb.*, 1928, pp. 209-11).

(c) Daggers (or Knife-daggers) and Rapiers. These are thrusting weapons. The former resembled halberds, but were generally smaller, measuring in length from 2 in. upwards, and hafted differently, a short handle of wood or horn taking the place of the long shaft. Rapiers were a longer and thinner variety of dagger, not unlike swords, which attained a length of 2 ft. and upwards. Of the former a few are reported to have been found in Denbighshire, as for instance in the parishes of Glyn Traean (Yr Orsedd Wen), Cyffylliog (Nilig), Llan-sannan (Rhiwiau tumulus), and Derwen (Glan Gors). Until recently the first mentioned was preserved at Ruthin Castle. About 1927 it mysteriously disappeared. The Cyffylliog dagger has found a permanent home in the Ashmolean Museum as part of the Sir A. Evans' Collection of stone and bronze implements. The others have unfortunately been lost sight of, and there are no reliable particulars.

Of rapiers one is known to have been discovered. This, which is preserved at the Ashmolean Museum, comes from the parish of Cerrig-y-drudion, its length being 17 in.

(d) Spearheads. These are a development of the dagger, the earliest form being a blade (like the dagger) with a tang to insert into a wooden shaft, which was prevented from splitting by the addition of a ferrule. From this was evolved the socketed variety, the socket at first ending at the base of the blade, but later continued inside a central rib half-way up the blade. At an early stage loops were added to the sides of the socket for the purpose of fastening the head to the shaft by means of a thong. At first the loops were placed low down on the socket, but in the course of development they gradually approach the base of the blade until at length they appear as perforations in the blades themselves. Eventually they disappear altogether or become mere ornaments, and the heads are secured to the shafts by means of metal pins passing through holes made in the socket in the plane of the blade.

No tanged, or early socketed forms of, spearheads have come to light in Denbighshire, but a socketed specimen with loops attached to the base of the blade (belonging to the end of the Second Phase of the Bronze Age) and three with pierced sockets for pins (Third Phase) have been discovered. The first (with loops at base of blade), which is preserved at Bwlch-y-beudy, Cerrig-y-drudion, is said to have been found at Nebo, Llanrwst. Two of the spearheads with pierced sockets were discovered on the limestone rocks to the north of Llangollen about 1890, and are now in private ownership. The third was unearthed at the Alwen Waterworks and finds a permanent home at the Birkenhead Museum. Another spearhead with a prominent central rib, belonging to the latest phase of the Bronze Age, was dug up in Pentrevoelas parish in 1877. This has been lost sight of.

(e) Leaf-shaped Swords. In the latest phase of the Bronze Age appeared swords of large dimensions and considerable weight, with

blades bulging out "leaf-shaped" at the middle. "The new type implies a totally different military tradition from the old, and an enhanced skill on the part of the craftsman. We are clearly dealing with an intrusive type" (Dr. Mortimer Wheeler). One example of this type of weapon would seem to have been discovered in the county of Denbigh. It was shown the Rev. J. Lloyd, of Ruthin, in 1693, while staying with a friend near Bryn Eglwys. It measured about 2 ft. in length, the handle being $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. long. It was found in the cleft of a rock. It somewhat resembled the Cwm Du (Breconshire) sword figured in Mortimer Wheeler's *Prehistoric and Roman Wales*, p. 151, but was 2 in. shorter.

(f) Socketed Knives. Two are credited to our county, but unfortunately no particulars of their discovery are preserved. One was found in the parish of Minera (now in the National Museum) and the other formed part of a hoard of implements (now in the Greenwell Collection at the British Museum) alleged to have been discovered in the parish of Llantysilio, near Llangollen.

3. *Other Bronze Age Objects.* (a) Horse Trappings. A hoard of bronze horse trappings belonging to the late Bronze Age was found about 1868 at the foot of the hill on which stands the fort of Dinorben, in St. George Parish. The bulk of these are preserved at Kinnel Park.* There are also a few specimens in the Chapter House of St. Asaph Cathedral. These are apparently the only examples of their kind discovered in Wales.

(b) Torcs. According to a statement in the *Parochialia* (Ed. Lhuyd) two torcs were discovered before the end of the 17th century near the River Dee in the parish of Llantysilio. The metal is described as "bright yellow brass." It is not impossible, however, that it was gold. Unfortunately it is not known what became of them.

(c) Notched Porcelain Beads. Examples of these, two only being whole, and consisting of two and four segments respectively, were discovered by the writer in 1927 among the incinerated bones of a child in a disrupted cist in a large tumulus situated in the yard of Ystrad Fawr Farm, Llangwm Parish. Together with the bones were fragments of two earthenware vessels—a food vessel and a cinerary urn. These beads are apparently the only examples of the kind hitherto reported from Wales.

4. *Pottery.* The examples of Bronze Age pottery that have survived to our time with very few exceptions† are sepulchral vessels, that is, vessels found with burials, as a rule in tumuli, such as beakers, food vessels, cinerary urns, and incense cups.

(a) Beakers. "Vessels of this class are hand-made, usually from 6 to 9 in. high, with thin walls made of clay tempered with sand or finely pounded stone. The surface of the vessel has often a polished appearance, from being smoothed or rubbed with a stone or a piece of bone. The vessels were fairly well baked in an open fire and assume a

* Since 1829 at Hendre-gyda.

† For exceptions—vessels used for domestic purposes—see *Bronze Age Pottery* (Abercromby), vol. i, p. 38 (Figs. 219–22); *Prehistoric and Roman Wales* (Mortimer Wheeler), p. 198.

yellowish, light brown, or drab colour, though a few are red or reddish. The ornament is profuse and arranged in horizontal zones with plain bands between. . . . This class of pottery is found almost invariably with skeleton interments under barrows, though a few instances have been noted where there was no indication that a tumulus had ever existed."* The beaker type of ceramic owed its introduction into Great Britain to a new race of people characterized by a short head (brachycephalic) as contrasted with the long head (dolichocephalic) of their predecessors of Neolithic times. Beakers belong exclusively to the early phase of the Bronze Age (2000–1500 B.C.).

Three types of beakers are distinguished by Abercromby (*Bronze Age Pottery*, i, p. 18) :—

- A. High-brimmed, globose cup.
- B. Ovoid cup with recurved rim.
- C. Low-brimmed cup.

To these may be added Handled Beakers.

Between 20 and 30 beakers or fragments thereof have been found in Wales, and the number is continually increasing. Of these, two whole and fragments of two have been discovered in Denbighshire. One was brought to light in excavating a tumulus at Plas Heaton, Henllan, and the other in the course of the destruction of a cairn on Mynydd-y-bryn, Llansilin. The former, which is the larger of the two, being 8 in. in height, is covered all over with small diagonal or slanting indentations, while the latter, which was only $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. in height, was ornamented, below its grooved neck, "with three bands of debased metope pattern, and a band of chevrons." This was unfortunately destroyed in a fire which, in 1924, gutted Bronheulog Lodge, Llansilin, where it was kept. The other beaker is preserved at Plas Heaton. Abercromby assigns these to Type B1.

Five fragments representing two vessels were discovered in 1924 by Mr. W. J. Hemp in the entrance passage of the Capel Garmon Chambered Long Cairn.

(b) Food Vessels. These served a similar purpose to that of beakers, viz. to be of use for the deceased. That the vessels we are now considering were intended to contain food for consumption by the dead is not improbable. As compared with beakers, food vessels are on the whole smaller and heavier, their walls being thicker and coarser. The ornamentation also differs; in the food vessel it is simpler and not disposed in zones alternating with plain bands. The food vessel, though to some extent contemporary with the beaker, belongs to the period which immediately succeeded that of the beaker. The two, however, represent quite distinct cultures, the food vessel being derived from the Neolithic bowl.

There are several varieties of food vessels—Abercromby divides them into six types. Some are globular or bowl-shaped; others are biconical, that is to say, wide in the middle and tapering towards the top and bottom. Another variety is, in the lower part, an inverted

* Abercromby (*Bronze Age Pottery*, i, p. 17).

truncated cone, while the upper portion or neck is concave terminating in a moulded or bevelled lip. Some examples possess lugs or pierced ears.

A considerable number of pieces of a vessel representing the transition between the beaker and the food vessel, sufficient to allow of a diagrammatical reconstruction, were recovered by the present writer, together with fragments of a cinerary urn, from a tumulus in Llangwm Parish (Ystrad Fawr) in 1927. The pot was a very well-made example, measuring in height about $6\frac{1}{2}$ in. and covered all over with a simple ornament consisting in the upper part, above the shoulder, of parallel horizontal lines made by cord-impression, broken by two unequal zones containing series of discontinuous oblique parallel lines made by the impression of cord. The inside of the lip was also ornamented with a number of horizontal parallel lines similarly made. Below the shoulder were series of short oblique strokes incised with a sharp instrument alternating with shallow cavetto bands.

So far as is known, only one other food vessel, or rather fragments of the same, has up to the present been found in our county. This was unearthed in the Hillbury barrow, Wrexham, in 1862, together with fragments of a large sepulchral urn of food vessel type. This is of the third variety noticed above.

(c) Cinerary Urns. These are so called because they contained the incinerated or calcined remains of the dead. They first appeared in the second phase of the Bronze Age (1500–1000 B.C.). Cinerary urns, though of much larger size and coarser make than beakers and food vessels, have affinities with both and especially the latter. The earlier examples strongly resemble food vessels in design. A characteristic of cinerary urns, as Abercromby points out,* is that the series begins with vessels that are structurally tripartite, consisting of three members—a rim, neck, and a body. It terminates with vessels that are bipartite, consisting of only a rim and a body. At first the rim was narrow and moulded. Later it grew gradually wider at the expense of the concave neck, which became more flattened, eventually disappearing altogether. A later type consisted of body only divided into three zones by cordons or hoops. Partly contemporary with this type is the “encrusted” urn, so called because the surface is partly or wholly decorated with designs in clay applied to the surface.

Of the urns unearthed in Denbighshire only three, one from Nantglyn (Gorsedd Bran) and two from Holt, are at present whole. The fragments of another—from Ruabon—are preserved and could be cemented together. A vessel brought to light in a tumulus (Bryn Bugeilyn) in Glyn Traean Parish was formerly intact. Its present whereabouts do not seem to be known. Photographs of two exposed in a tumulus (Farnyard) in the parish of Llanrwst were taken *in situ* before unsuccessful attempts were made to remove them whole. Of four, sufficient fragments were recovered to render possible at least a partial diagrammatical reconstruction. These are from tumuli in the parishes of Eglwysbach (Mwdwl Eithin), Wrexham (Hillbury), Llanellian (Gloddaeth), and Llangwm (Ystrad Fawr).

* *Bronze Age Pottery*, vol. ii, p. 8.

To classify the ten or eleven Denbighshire urns is no easy matter. That represented by the fragments from the Hillbury tumulus is, according to Dr. Cyril Fox,* of the food vessel type, and so, early in date. To the same class belong the Holt urns, and also the Ruabon and Llangwm specimens—two very fine vessels. The Eglwysbach and Nantglyn vessels, though differing a good deal one from the other, are to be assigned to the class of the moulded overhanging rim. To the same also belong the Llanrwst urns and that from Bryn Bugeilyn, but their rims are very rudimentary, the concave necks being fairly pronounced. No example of the straight and wide overhanging rim is known to have been brought to light in the county. The Llanellian vessel, judging from the few rim fragments recovered, was a somewhat debased example, with ornament of the trellis pattern rudely executed, recalling the Neolithic bowl. It should, perhaps, be placed in the class of the food-vessel type.

(d) Incense Cups. Abercromby prefers the name "pygmy" to "incense" cups, which latter has nothing to recommend it. These vessels seldom exceed $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. in height. The use to which they were put is still a matter of conjecture. A characteristic of most of these cups is that they have one or two pairs of small holes in their sides at the widest part, possibly for suspension or to secure a cover. In some examples the sides are perforated with open-work. They are usually found with cremation burials, and sometimes inside cinerary urns. There is record of only one incense or pygmy cup being found in our county, viz. at Holt, with other sepulchral vessels. It was about 3 in. high, and devoid of ornament.

IV. THE IRON AGE. This in Britain commenced about 500 B.C., when the Bronze Age came to an end. It is so called from the fact that iron came to supersede bronze as the metal for weapons and implements. Bronze, however, was still extensively used, especially for ornaments. On the continent the Iron Age started several centuries earlier. To this early continental period (800–500 B.C.) archaeologists give the name of Hallstatt, from a village in the Noric Alps (Austrian Tyrol), near which lies a prehistoric cemetery that yielded to excavators between 1847 and 1864 over 6,000 objects distinctive of the civilization which obtained at the period of transition from the Bronze Age to the Iron Age. Hallstatt, where were salt mines which had been worked for centuries, is regarded as one of the first places in Europe where iron was made use of. In Britain the Hallstatt culture was until recently supposed to be represented only by a few find-sites, which were believed to owe their existence to casual immigrants from the continent, such as traders, but of late years a good deal of Hallstatt pottery has been found in a number of sites in South Britain. As to Wales its quota of relics belonging to this period is hitherto small, but not unimportant; a notable discovery of iron and bronze implements was made in 1911 in Llynfawr Lake, Glamorgan. Denbighshire can boast no objects assignable to this phase of culture.

The Iron Age in the British Isles coincides with the second continental phase, to which the name of La Tène is given. This is

* *Arch. Camb.*, 1925, p. 177.

divided into La Tène I (500–300 B.C.), La Tène II (300–100), and La Tène III (100 B.C.–100 A.D.). Déchelette postulates for the British Isles a fourth La Tène period, covering the early years of the Roman occupation.* “La Tène” (The Shallows), the designation of the culture characteristic of the period under consideration, was the name given to an ancient lake village discovered under water at the east end of Lake Neuchâtel, in Switzerland, and excavated, after the lowering of the level of the lake in the years 1874–81 and the drying up of the spot, by Emile Vouga. The objects discovered, which were very numerous† and belonged for the most part to La Tène II, consisted of iron swords of characteristic form, spearheads, brooches, and tools, such as axes, knives, chisels, etc.

In the British Isles the La Tène period is usually designated “Late Celtic,” a name that was given it in 1864 by Sir A. W. Franks in Kemble’s *Horæ Ferales*. The finds belonging to the period in these islands, though inspired as regards decoration by continental models, yet exhibit striking original characteristics. Certain of our insular Late Celtic antiquities, as for instance the Thames and Witham shields, far surpass in beauty of design and excellence of execution anything discovered on the continent.

In Wales the discoveries of the Iron Age, as regards numbers, have been somewhat disappointing, especially iron objects, which are exceedingly rare. The few iron articles which were discovered in our county, with one notable exception to be mentioned presently, were turned up on excavated sites. One *tumulus*, that at Orsedd Wen, in Glyn Traean parish, yielded two bits of iron, a rusty nail, and a “part of a sword or dagger blade near the hilt.” In three of the *camp*s excavated iron was found. Moel Fenlli produced one corroded piece, the nature of which was not recognisable, and Pen-y-Corddyn two pieces, one 3¼ in. long, very much corroded, and the other a nodule very much oxidised. At Parc-y-meirch a fair number of iron relics were brought to light, among which may be mentioned a few spearheads and two triangular arrow-heads, a large number of nails of various shapes and sizes, broken horse-shoes, a small iron sickle, and a fine axe-head. Iron quickly corrodes, and this fact no doubt accounts to a great extent for the paucity of the articles of that metal found in our county as well as elsewhere. The chance finds of Iron Age objects belonging to Denbighshire, though few in number, are not devoid of interest. They consist of:—

(a) The remains of a bronze hanging bowl with chains, ascribable to La Tène I, found in 1924 in the parish of Cerrig-y-drudion, about a mile N.W. of the village. The body of the vessel had perished. In addition to four short lengths of chains very little besides the rim, in fragments, remained. The rim on the underside is ornamented with a remarkable design derived from the classical palmette, but treated with considerable freedom and irregularity. This is the only vessel of

* *Manuel d'Archéologie*, iv (Epoque de La Tène), 1927, p. 440.

† There had been at La Tène a toll-station with depots for the storing of articles of merchandise claimed as dues for the right of passage (*Manuel d'Archéologie*, Déchelette (1927), iv, 446).

its kind discovered not only in Wales but in the British Isles. In view of the late emergence of the Iron Age culture in Britain according to the present prevailing evidence, the discovery of this early La Tène bowl in so remote a locality is a remarkable fact. It can, however, scarcely indicate that the culture had penetrated into this particular part of North Wales. Its presence must rather be interpreted as an intrusion attributable to a traveller or a trader.

(b) A Bronze Armlet, decorated with repoussé design, found in 1897 just outside the town of Llanrwst, close to the road (on the E. side of the River Conway) to Bettws-y-Coed. "On this the spandrels between a series of strongly marked oval bosses are filled with small leaf-patterns treated with a comparative realism unusual to the style."* It is preserved in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford. This and the remaining objects to be mentioned belong to the last phase of Iron Age culture (La Tène III).

(c) Bronze Spoons. These, two in number (they are usually found in pairs), were discovered in 1861 in the Vale of Clwyd, near Ffynogion (Llanfair Parish), and are now in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh. Another pair is recorded from Wales, viz. from Penbryn in Cardiganshire. Other examples are: 8 from England, 2 from Scotland, 5 from Ireland, and 2 from France. Their use has been a matter of considerable uncertainty. One recent suggestion is that they were castanets. The most probable view, however, is that they were spoons. One in each pair usually has a cross incised on the bowl, and the other a perforation made near one edge. The significance of these is not known.

(d) An Iron Fire Dog, which was discovered in 1852 near Capel Garmon village in the civil parish of Llanrwst, and is now preserved at Voelas, the residence of Major J. C. Wynne Finch. This is a remarkably fine specimen, and the only one of its kind found in Wales. A few examples have been discovered on the continent and in England, but they all differ from the Capel Garmon "dog" in that their uprights are plain and not furnished with loops formed by iron bands riveted on either side—"rubans d'applique" (Déchelette), and in that the crest or hair on the ox heads, when it is present, is less developed. These belong to La Tène III.

(e) Loom Weights. Three of baked clay were discovered in 1912 near the top of the pass between Moel Fenlli and Moel Famau. These are the only examples recorded from Wales.

V. THE ROMAN ERA. In Denbighshire there is only one definitely Roman site, the important tile and pottery manufactory at Holt, on the Dee. In the course of the excavation of this site, already referred to, numerous Roman objects were discovered. Other excavated sites which yielded Roman relics were the native camps of Moel Fenlli, Pen-y-Corrdyn, and Parc-y-meirch. In the last mentioned the discoveries were considerable, while in the former two they were very meagre, consisting only of a few sherds of so-called Samian pottery. The chance finds of this period in our county consist almost exclusively of coins—hoards and odd specimens.

* *Prehistoric and Roman Wales*, pp. 211-2.

A short account will now be given of the more important discoveries made on excavated sites, and by chance elsewhere.

1. Coins. Among the hoards which fall to the lot of Denbighshire may be mentioned those discovered in the parish of Llanferres (Moel Fenlli), Llanelidan parish (Bodlywydd), Llangwm parish (Maerdy), Llanarmon Dyffryn Ceiriog parish (Sarffle), Llandrillo parish (Rhos Abbey and Bryn Euryn), Llantysilio parish (Pen-y-bryn). Considerable quantities were also found at Holt and Parc-y-meirch: 45 at the former place and nearly 200 at the latter. The number of odd specimens casually picked up is small.

2. Utensils. Two interesting finds belonging to this era made in our county are hoards of domestic utensils or paterae discovered respectively at Plas Uchaf, Abergele, and Coed Ial, Llantysilio. Only two other finds of similar objects have been recorded from the whole of Wales—from Kyngadle, Carmarthenshire, and Ynys Gwrtheyrn, Merionethshire.

3. Pottery. Three of the coin hoards referred to above, viz. those of Abergele, Maerdy, and Bryn Euryn, were enclosed in earthenware vessels, but not a fragment has been preserved. Pottery in abundance has been brought to light on the Holt Roman site and in the Parc-y-meirch native camp. Several varieties of wares are represented—some coarse and some more or less refined. Belonging to the refined class were examples of the beautiful table ware usually designated Samian ware. The name *Terra sigillata* is also employed. Neither term, however, is satisfactory, but both are probably destined to continue in use. The name Samian was at first applied under the mistaken impression that this was the ware referred to by Pliny and manufactured in Samos in the Grecian Archipelago. It was originally made in Arettium (now Arezzo), in Tuscany, Italy. In the first century it was imitated, first in South Gaul at La Graufesenque, etc., and later in Eastern Gaul. During the second century it was extensively manufactured in Central Gaul, especially at Lezoux. "The leading characteristic of Samian ware is a surface resembling red sealing-wax in colour and lustre." Some vessels were plain, others were richly ornamented. The decorative designs or patterns which were impressed from a mould were greatly diversified. Samian ware was imported to Britain in large quantities. It was also made locally. A good quality was produced at Holt. It, however, differed from continental Samian in that the decoration was stamped and not cast in a mould.

4. Inscribed Stones. Two *miliary* or mile stones have been found in Caernarvonshire near the Roman road between Segontium and Conovium, but none has been brought to light in our county, though at least one Roman road traversed it for a distance of 16 miles. Two *centurial* stones—stones bearing a record of work accomplished by a century of soldiers—were discovered at Holt, and a mill stone with letters suggesting that it belonged to a century. No memorial stones are known to exist in the county.

5. Trinkets. Many examples of various trinkets, such as bronze bracelets, finger and ear rings, brooches, beads, etc., were discovered

in the course of the excavations at Parc-y-meirch, in the parish of St. George. "A very interesting relic from an art point of view was a small bronze bull's head; this was probably used suspended as an amulet by a ring at the top, now broken off; it is undoubtedly of Celtic technique, quite different from somewhat similar Roman ornaments, and is therefore a fine example of native workmanship." A few trinkets were also found at the Holt tile and pottery works.

Chance discoveries of such objects in places other than excavated archaeological sites have not been made in the county with one exception. In 1881 a small penannular brooch with expanded zoomorphic terminals, minus its pin, was picked up in a plantation above the Eglwyseg Rocks, Llangollen. This type, according to Mr. Reginald A. Smith, was derived from a Roman pattern but transformed by Romanised Britons soon after the withdrawal of the Roman legions early in the fifth century. Dr. Mortimer Wheeler dissents from this view, preferring a date a century or two earlier. Half of an early type of penannular brooch was dug up at Parc-y-meirch, St. George.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS FINDS. (a) Spindle Whorls. These are circular discs usually of stone, flat as a rule, and under 2 in. in diameter, with a central perforation, and were used from the Bronze Age downwards to regulate the revolutions of the spindle in spinning yarn. Some have their faces decorated with various kinds of devices such as radiating lines, concentric circles, dots, etc. They are quite common. In Denbighshire they have been noticed by men engaged in agriculture in almost every district, though few have taken the trouble to pick them up. A certain number are dealt with in the text.

(b) Quern Stones. Like spindle whorls, querns, that is, stone hand-mills, have been in use from prehistoric days down almost to modern times. All known examples of quern stones in the county have been recorded, though the date of some, if not of the majority, may be much later than the Roman era.

ABERGELE URBAN.

STONE AXE : CLWYD AVENUE.

DISCOVERY. This was discovered in May, 1926, by a workman (E. T. Roberts, of Towyn) in digging a sewer along a new street called

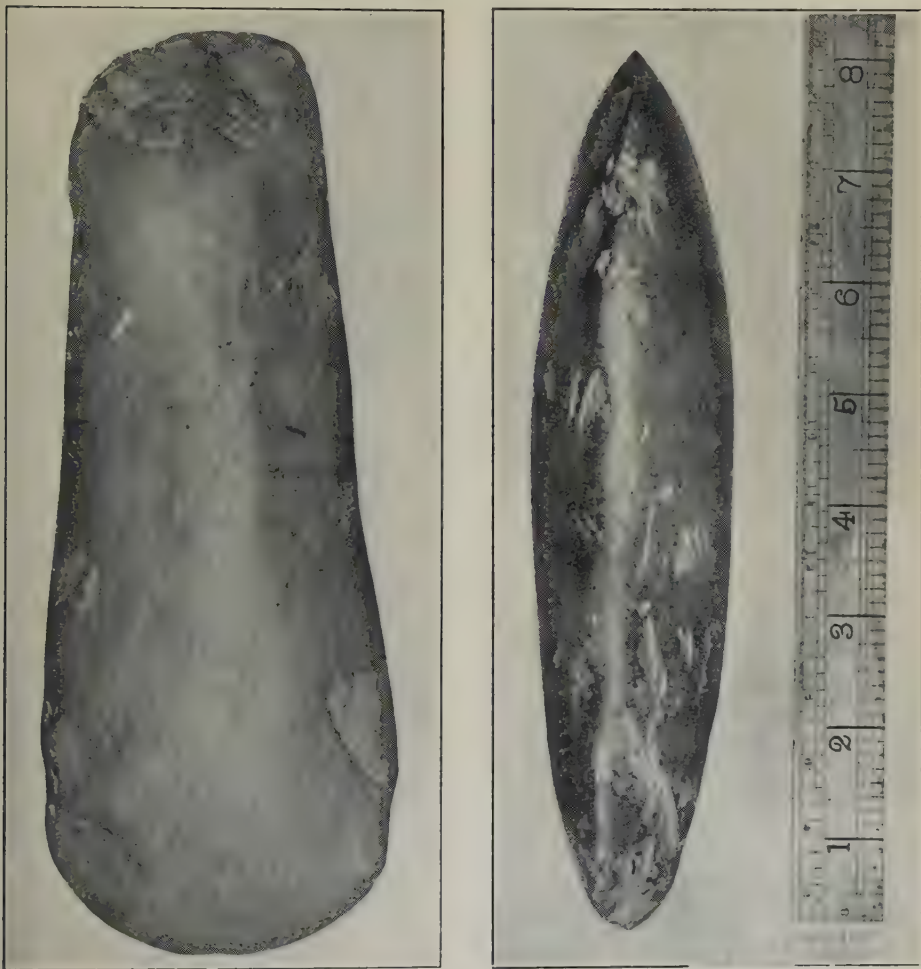


Photo. by Mr. R. S. Rowlands.

FIG. 1—STONE AXE, CLWYD AVENUE.

Clwyd Avenue, which runs from Dundonald Avenue across Pentre Uchaf field in an E. direction. The spot is about 300 yds. N.N.E. of the parish church, and 100 yards from the Dundonald Avenue. The implement lay horizontally embedded in the clayey alluvium, some $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. beneath the surface.

[6 in. O.S. sheet iv, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 17' 14''$; long. $3^{\circ} 34' 46''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The axe, which is finely ground and polished, measures $8\frac{1}{2}$ in. in length and $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. across the cutting edge, which is crescent shaped and perfect except for one tiny dent. The butt end has been rather badly chipped. The stone of which it is made is almost certainly from Graig Lwyd, Penmaenmawr, where there were celt factories in Neolithic times. Mr. R. S. Rowlands, of Pensarn, Abergele, who acquired the celt from the finder, is of opinion that it was not dropped or deposited where it was found by the hand of man, but was carried down by the waters of the River Gele, which entered the sea at Pensarn before its course was diverted through Y Corsydd and Morfa Rhuddlan into the Clwyd early in the nineteenth century.

PRESENT LOCATION. Mr. Rowlands has presented the celt to the Abergele County School Museum, where it is kept in a show case.

Celt seen Ap. 19, 1927.

ABERGELE RURAL.

TUMULUS : MOELFRE ISAF.

SITE. This is situated on the summit of Moelfre Isaf, a hill 900 ft. above Ordnance Datum, about 3 m. s.s.e. of Abergele town. [6 in. O.S. sheet vii, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 14' 49''$; long. $3^{\circ} 34' 17''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The tumulus, or cairn, is composed for the most part of stones. Circumference, about 64 paces ; height, on s. side about 5 ft., and on the N. $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. The ground immediately around has been much disturbed.

Inspected Ap. 25, 1923.

SMALL CAIRN (?) : FFRITH DOLGANED.

SITE. This stands in the above Ffrith, close to the N.W. corner of the plantation known as Coed Fron Ddu, about $1\frac{3}{4}$ m. s.s.w. of St. George Church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet vii, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 14' 46''$; long. $3^{\circ} 33' 28''$.]

DESCRIPTION. If an ancient cairn, and not a modern heap of stones collected from the surface of the Ffrith, it is somewhat small, measuring only 18 paces in circumference and about 1 ft. in height. It is quite round and covered with grass and heather. Elevation : above contour line 800.

Seen Ap. 3, 1928.

REMAINS OF A CIRCLE : FFRITH DOLGANED.

SITE. These remains are to be seen in an uncultivated enclosure, called Ffrith Dolganed, about 300 yds. s.e. of Ffynnon Dyfyr, and $1\frac{3}{4}$ m. s.s.w. of St. George Church. The exact position is about midway between the N.W. corner of Coed Fron Ddu and the S.W. corner of Ffrith Llwynog Wood.

[6 in. O.S. sheet vii, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 14' 49''$; long. $3^{\circ} 33' 29''$.]

DESCRIPTION. Only the western half of the ring of this circle is left. The diameter would seem to have been 12 paces. The enclosing bank is made of stones and soil, and measures at present about 1 yd. in breadth and 1 ft. in height. At the w. end is a gap like an entrance. One cannot be absolutely certain that these meagre remains are ancient.

Two hundred yards or so to the s.w. are quite distinct remains of other structures—modern probably, though one heap of stones looks not unlike a small cairn. A local tradition says that an old town (hen dre) stood on this Ffrith. Elevation: above contour line 800.

Seen Ap. 3, 1928.

CAMP : PEN-Y-CORDDYN.

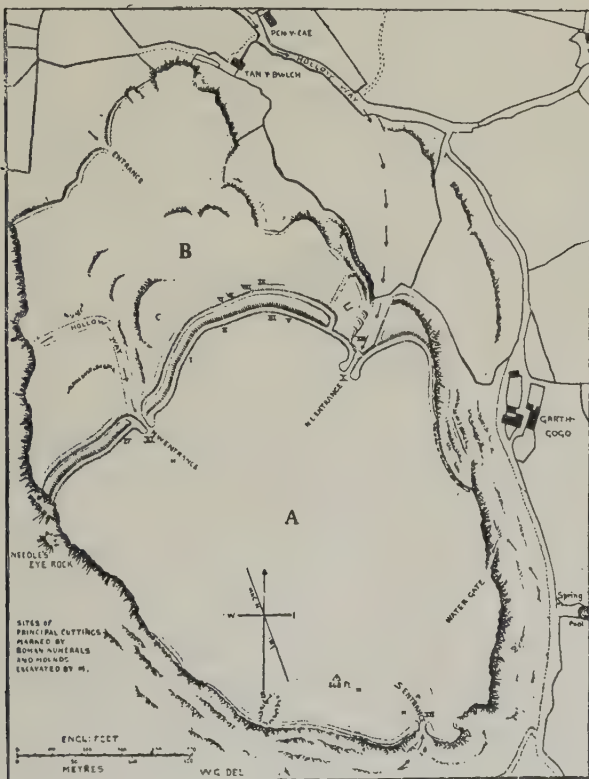


FIG. 2—PLAN OF FORT, PEN Y CORDDYN.

SITE. This fortress crowns the summit of a rocky limestone hill ranging between 350 and 568 ft. above sea level, known as Pen-y-Corddyn, situated on the E. side of the Dulas Valley, just over 1 m. s. from Llanddulas Church, and 2 m. as the crow flies s.w. of Abergele.

[6 in. O.S. sheet iv, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 16' 23''$; long. $3^{\circ} 37' 37''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The Corddyn fortress consists of two parts—the main stronghold, in area about 24 acres, occupying the plateau on the higher part of the hill, and an outer enclosure, measuring about 13 acres, and lying to the N.W. of the former, on sloping ground.

(1) *The Main Stronghold.* The defence on the w. side of the main fortress consists of two aggers, a larger and a smaller, about 45 ft. apart at the northern point but gradually diminishing to 35 ft. on the west side. The aggers now have the appearance of mounds of heaped-up earth and rubble, but at intervals along their crests rows of larger and roughly-squared stones are seen projecting, indicating the former existence of built wall. Ditches are here and there visible on the outside of the outer agger and quarries on the inner. On the s.w. and E. sides of the stronghold the precipitous and rocky nature of the declivity made artificial defences unnecessary, except at a few points where access was possible through gaps in the cliff. At these points walls were built, remains of which are still to be seen.

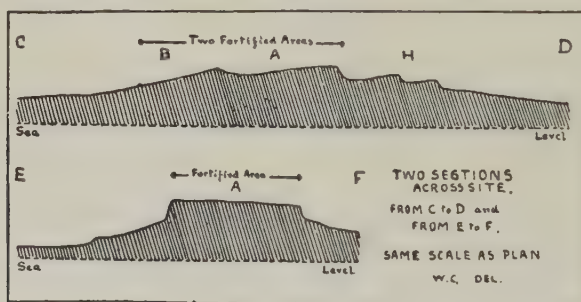


FIG. 3—PEN Y CORDDYN.

(2) *Outer Enclosure.* This, except where it adjoined the stronghold, had a continuous rampart on one other side only, that is, the N.W., it being defended on the w. and N.E. by the rock escarpment of the hill. At intervals the steep sides are broken by grassy gaps, necessitating artificial defences, remnants of which still remain. Quarries are seen on the inner side of the rampart.

(3) *Entrances.* The stronghold had four entrances, one in the N.E. side, a second in the N.W. side, a third near the S.E. corner, and a sally port on the E. side. The entrances were constructed at the heads of the easiest approaches available on the three sides of the hill, and hollow tracks led up to them from different points at the base. The three main entrances had incurving walls, which were more marked in the case of the two northern ones, which also had outworks. From the sally port on the E. side there is a path leading down the slope to a spring about 80 yds. to the S.E.

The outer enclosure or annexe also possessed an entrance. It was near the middle of the rampart on the N.W. side, and resembled the S. entrance of the stronghold.

EXCAVATION. The excavation of the site was undertaken by the Abergele Antiquarian Association in the autumn of 1905, Mr. [now Dr.] Willoughby Gardner being invited to direct operations.

DETAILS OF EXCAVATION. (1) *Ramparts*. In order to ascertain the real nature of the ramparts several cuttings—nine in all—were made at right angles across them. The results of the diggings at these points are thus summarised by Mr. Gardner (*Arch. Camb.*, 1910, p. 149): "Here excavation has shown that they [the fortifications] originally consisted of the following, viz., an upper rubble-built rampart, averaging 18 ft. thick at its base, and apparently 8 ft. high; a flat space, for convenience called a berm, averaging 18 ft. thick and $4\frac{1}{2}$ ft.

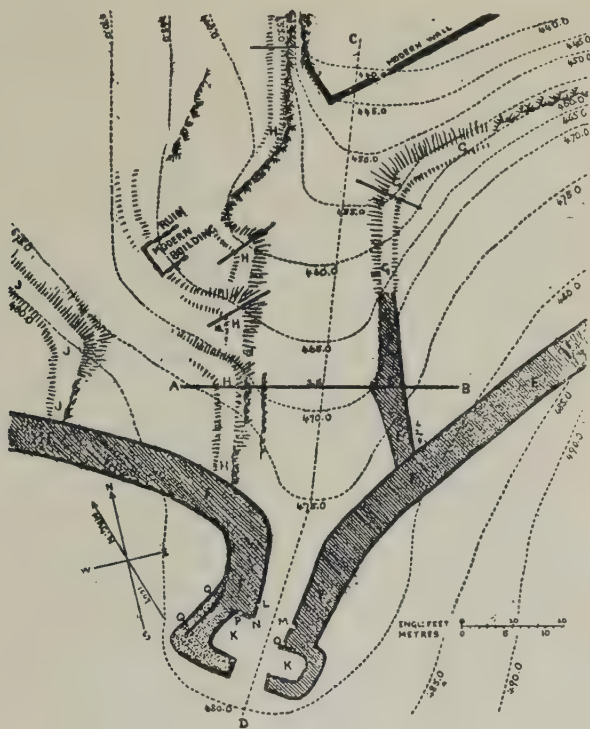


FIG. 4—N.E. ENTRANCE. PEN Y CORDDYN.

high; and beyond this, but in places only, a ditch averaging 12 ft. wide and 4 ft. deep. The upper rampart was cased either with a similar wall or with pitching; there was a broad fighting platform upon the top of the rampart, which was very probably protected by a stone parapet upon its outer edge. The second or lower rampart was also of rubble, but apparently heaped up like an earthwork, without any wall facings. The main defence was the great upper rampart, with its stone wall facing and its broad fighting platform (with parapet in front), reached from its banquette behind. The small lower rampart and the ditch, where found, were probably constructed to serve as obstacles to check a rush (the favourite form of attack with uncivilised peoples) upon the main wall."

(2) *Entrances.* The three entrances were explored, with the following results:—

(a) The N.E. entrance. This was formed by the incurving of the ends of the single line of rampart which exists at this point. The walls at the mouth of the entrance, which were 22 ft. apart, continued inwards roughly parallel to one another to form an almost straight



FIG. 5—N.E. ENTRANCE, AS EXCAVATED.

passage 35 ft. long. Near its end the passage narrowed to a distance of 14 ft. Here vertical hollow grooves occurred in the walls, approximately opposite to one another. At the foot of these grooves there were holes of considerable size in the ground. These were to hold the posts of the gates. Two more were found 6 ft. or so nearer the interior. Beyond these grooves were two more or less rectangular chambers—one on each side—in the walls. In the chambers the sides facing the passage in each case were open, that on the E. side having an interior area measuring 10 ft. by 12 ft., and that on the west, 15 ft. long by 8 ft. to 12 ft. wide.

(b) N.W. entrance. This again consisted of a passage, about 30 ft. long, and varying from 13 ft. to 9 ft. wide, between flanking walls, with a gate at the far end. The design of this, however, was less elaborate, there being only one pair of post-holes and no guard chambers in the walls.

(c) s. entrance. This differed from the other two in having a crooked instead of a straight passage leading from the exterior to the interior. The passage averaged about 9 ft. in width. This entrance also had one pair of post-holes not far from its inner end. "The walls of these three incurved entrances," so writes Mr. Gardner, "were carefully scrutinised during the progress of the excavations to see if they were, perchance, later additions to the fortress, as is sometimes the case. But there is no doubt that they are continuous with the ramparts, and of similar age" (p. 128).

FINDS. The relics found in the fort in the course of the excavation conducted under the supervision of Mr. Willoughby Gardner were disappointingly few. They included broken bones of animals consumed for food, charcoal, pot-boilers, sling-stones, a few objects made of iron, stone and flint, and some fragments of pottery. The *bones* were those of domestic animals, the sheep, the goat, the horse, the pig, and the short-horned ox (*bos longifrons*). Of the *pottery*, one fragment was of glazed red Samian ware. It was found 3 ft. deep in a refuse heap outside the gate in the n.w. entrance. It is of Gaulish manufacture, and apparently once formed part of a flat circular dish made for domestic use. Another fragment was apparently of yellowish pottery, with the surface much disintegrated, found with the last piece. Two pieces of *iron* were discovered, one, $3\frac{1}{4}$ in. in length, very much corroded, and the other, a nodule, very much oxidised. The *flint* objects consisted of a scraper (used for dressing skins) and some flakes.

LOCATION OF FINDS. Mr. [now Dr.] Gardner, in *Arch. Camb.*, 1910, p. 147, states that the finds, carefully labelled, are preserved in cases at the Abergele County School. Inquiries made at the School, Jan. 15, 1925, elicited the information that this is not the case. The most interesting were sent to the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff. Mr. J. R. Ellis, of Abergele, has a few in his possession.

PURPOSE OF FORT. The fortress, judging by its great size, was in all probability constructed, so Dr. Gardner concludes, as a place of safety for the accommodation of the population of the district in time of danger, rather than as a military stronghold. For the latter purpose the very commanding little hill, 300 ft. high, lying to the s.w. of Y Corddyn, would have been far more suitable.

No traces of permanent dwelling-places were found inside the area. When the camp was occupied, shelter would be obtained in hastily constructed huts made of perishable materials like timber. Even the fortifications, so Dr. Gardner observes, had the appearance of having been hurriedly erected. In places, e.g. on the n. side, they were left even unfinished. The outer enclosure—called by Dr. Gardner "the annexe"—possibly served as a cattle pen on a large scale.

DATE. When this fortification was first constructed it is impossible to say with certainty. Dr. Willoughby Gardner favours the first century of our era rather than an earlier date. The fortifications, he maintains, betray signs of Roman influence, for, while the ramparts were without any doubt native work, the builders would

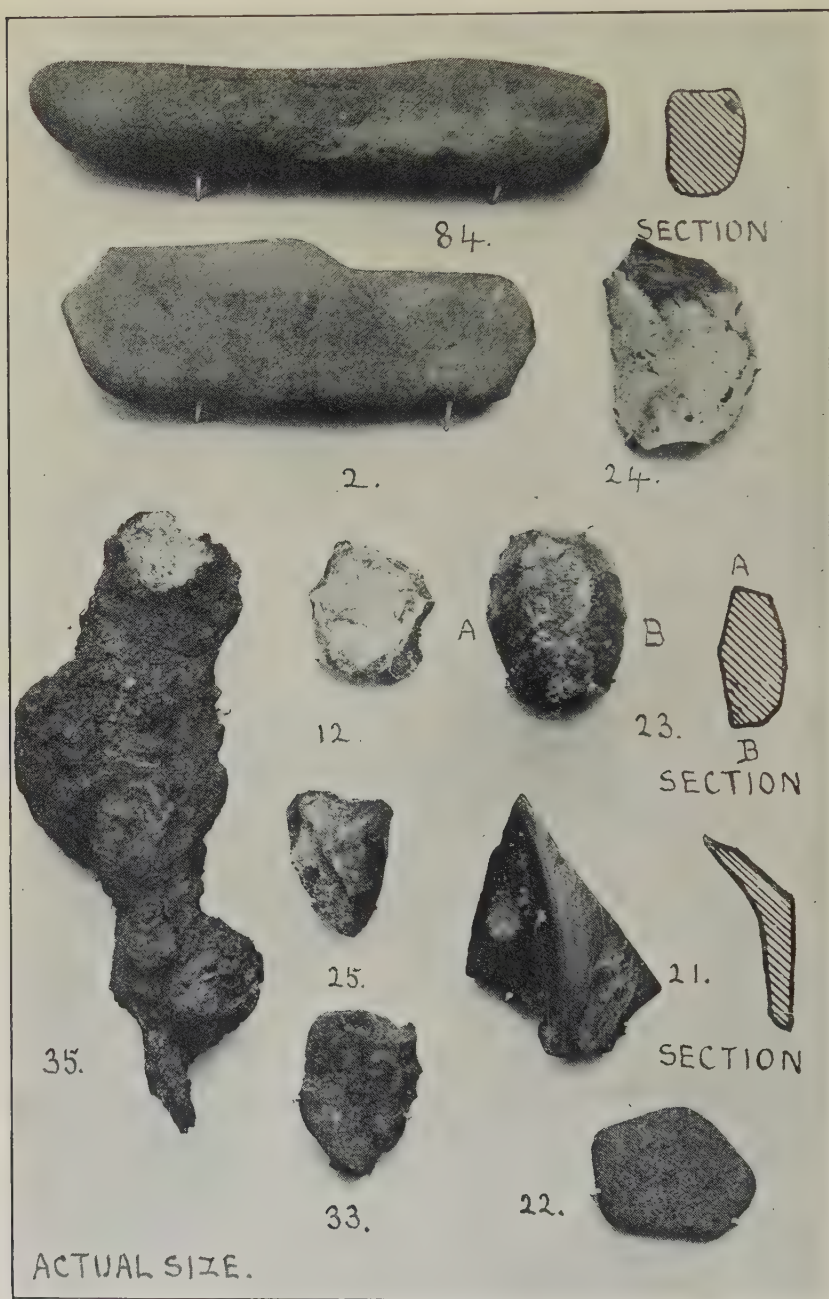


FIG. 6—RELICS DISCOVERED IN PEN-Y-CORDDYN CAMP.

seem to have copied Roman methods of defence, and the forms of the entrances were distinctly different from those found in late Celtic (pre-Roman) strongholds. There is almost conclusive evidence that Pen-y-Corddyn was occupied during the early centuries of our era, the discovery of a "piece of imported red Gaulish pottery" in a refuse heap pointing to such a date.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES. The *Parochialia* (Edward Lhuyd, 1699), part I, p. 44, has the following brief mention of the fort:—"Yr Hengaer on Maen Gwyn. Pen y Kowrdhin an other entrenchment." It is somewhat strange that no other ancient topographer refers to this important camp. Leland, Camden, Pennant, Fenton, Bingley, and Samuel Lewis (*Topo. Dict.*) all alike pass it by unnoticed. Short accounts by Prof. Babington and Mr. Harold Hughes appear in *Arch. Camb.* for 1880 (p. 314) and 1906 (p. 268). Dr. Willoughby Gardner, F.S.A., contributed to *Arch. Camb.* for 1910 (pp. 79-156) a long and able article describing the fort and the excavations carried out under his supervision in 1915-1916. It is from this account that the particulars here given are derived.

NAME. The meaning of *Corddyn* in Pen-y-Corddyn is not quite certain. Lhuyd's *Kowrdhin* has been supposed to suggest *Cawr-ddin*, i.e. "Giant-fort." Another suggestion is *Cordd-ddin*—"Village or clan fort," cf. *trefgordd* (township). The last syllable of the word, however, is pronounced *ddyn* and not *ddin*. The meaning of *corddyn* is "pivot," cf. Latin *cardo*, *cardinem*.

Visited March, 1913, and Oct. 11, 1927.

[*Iuventory*, No. 7, pp. 2-4.]

CAMP : CASTELL CAWR.

SITE. Castell Cawr is a fort situated on a wooded hill, 600 ft. above sea level, about a mile s.w. of Abergele. The hill belongs to the Gwrych Castle Estate.

[6 in. O.S. sheet iv, s.e. : lat. 53° 16' 32-40" ; long. 3° 35' 39-50".]

DESCRIPTION. The position of the fort is a naturally strong one. On the n.e. side the declivity is precipitous, rendering artificial defences on that side altogether unnecessary. The defences on the other sides consist of a single rampart with a ditch on the outside, except on the s., where it is on the inside. The rampart is of stone, with which, now at least, some soil is mixed. Following the course of the defences from the edge of the precipice on the lower side (i.e. n.) of the camp, which is on a slope, in the s.w. direction, we find that at first they are not particularly strong. Further on they increase in strength and become, 70 yds. or so from the precipice, quite formidable, the distance from the crest of the rampart to the bottom of the ditch being in places as much as 20 yds. On the w. side about half-way between the curve and the entrance, which is about the middle of this side, at a kind of angle, is a circular mound of considerable size resembling a cairn. The entrance is 10 yds. or thereabouts wide. The rampart to the s. incurves, extending several yards into the

interior. At some period subsequent to its construction a breach seems to have been made just where it begins to turn inwards. There is no corresponding curvature in the rampart on the other side.

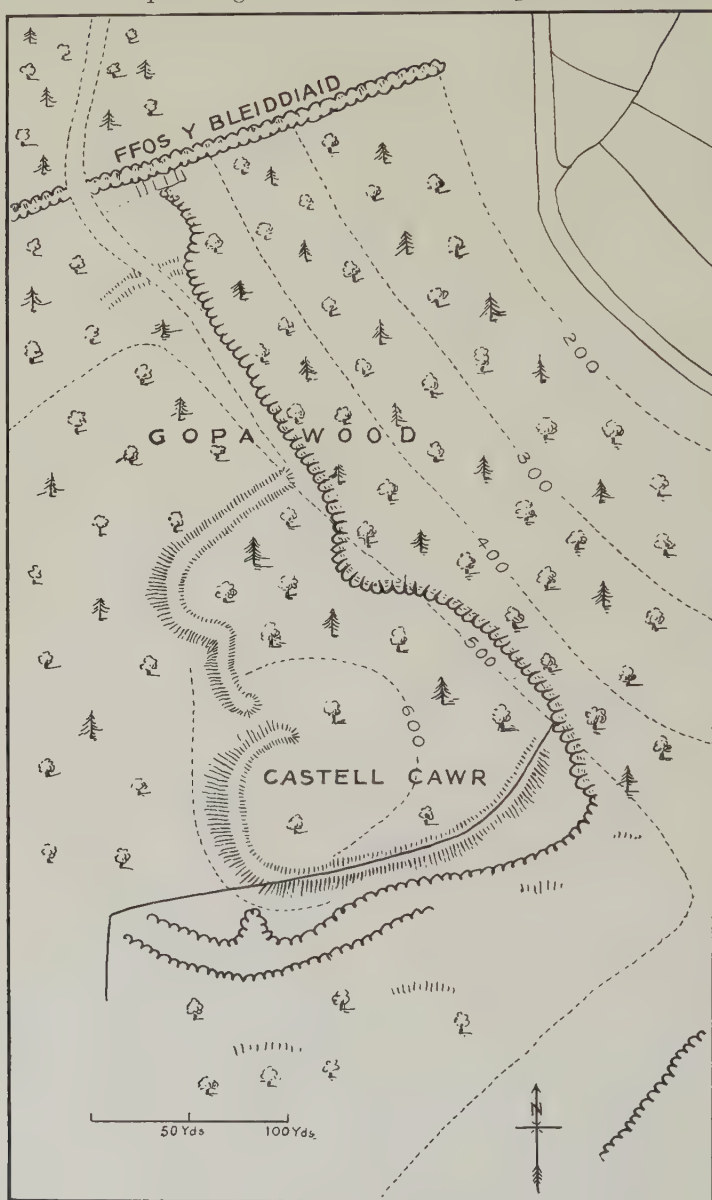


FIG. 7—CASTELL CAWR CAMP.

From the entrance to the s.w. corner the rampart is very strong, approach to the fort on this side being easy. On the s. the rampart is considerably weaker, and formed of rubble, the larger stones having no doubt been utilised to build the modern wall, now somewhat dilapidated, which has been superimposed on it. The ditch, which

on this side, as has already been said, is internal, is 5 or 6 yds. wide. The area enclosed, between 4 and 5 acres, is buried in a jungle of vegetation. Some 120 paces or so down the slope to the N.N.W. from the fort, extending from the precipice for about 55 yds., is a stretch of parapet composed of stone and soil with an internal ditch.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES. There is no reference to this camp either in Camden's *Britannia* or Leland's *Itinerary*. In the *Parochialia* of Edward Lhuyd (1699), pt. i, p. 44, the following note appears under Abergele :—"Yr Hengaer [The Old Camp] on Maen Gwyn." In all probability the camp referred to is Castell Cawr. The name *Maen Gwyn*, however, is not now known, but it occurs in the *Parochialia* (i, p. 43) as the name of one of the "Kreigie" [Rocks] of the parish. Less than a century ago the hill was more or less bare, the present trees having been planted *circa* 1840.

Pennant in his *Tours* (iii, 148) thus writes of the fort :—"On one of them [the high limestone hills bounding Abergele to the s.w.] projecting from the rest, called *Coppa yr Wylfa*, or the mount of the watch-tower, is a very strong *British* post. The front is a great precipice. . . The accessible parts are defended by fosses of vast depth, and mounds of stones along the inner sides, which give them considerable strength."

S. Lewis, in his *Topographical Dictionary* (1842²), s.v. "Abergele," supposes that Pennant's *Coppa yr Wylfa* is a site distinct from that at Castell Cawr and speaks of a fort on each, thus : "On the summit of one of the limestone hills, about a mile N. [*recte* s.] of the church, there is a very large and perfect camp, called Castell Mawr [*sic*]; and near it, on a hill, called *Coppa yr Wylva* . . . there are some remains of an ancient British fortress of great strength, of which the north front is defended by an almost perpendicular precipice, 196 ft. in height, and on the E. and S. are walls of stone and a deep fosse."

W. Davis, in his *Handbook for the Vale of Clwyd* (1857²), p. 38, writes: "*Castell Cawr*, or 'Giant's Castle'—the rock immediately above the town of Abergele. This is one of the most complete Roman fortified camps in the kingdom. It must have been a place of immense strength in its day. It is a semi-circular, in the shape of a crescent having the precipice for the N. side towards the sea. There are two fosse [*sic*]—an inner and an outer; the inner one much the largest,—the outer one is also traceable all round, but more especially on the common towards, and belonging to Tyddyn-y-morgan farm. The inner work needs no description,—it can be walked along with the greatest ease, and in some parts is as firm and strong as the day of its construction."

There is also a short account of the fort in *Arch. Camb.* for 1912, p. 129.

NAME. The old name of the fort was "Dinhengroen" or "Dinhengryn," which survives in the name of the township in which it is situate, viz., "Nant Dinhengroen" (*Parochialia* i, 42) cf. *Peniarth MS.* 267, fol. 39 (Report i, p. 1078): "Kaereu . . . Kaer Dinhengroen yn ymyl [near] Abergele." The variants, Dynhengryn, Dynhengreyn,

Denhengryn, Dynhengroen, appear in the *Survey of the Honour of Denbigh* (1334). "Hengryn" or "Hengroen" was probably a personal name. It is, however, only known as the name of Arthur's horse, on which Cynwyl Sant escaped from the Battle of Camlan, in which Arthur was slain (See *Kulhwch and Olwen*).

"Copa'r Wylfa" (The Summit of the Watch-place), the name by which Pennant calls the site, is not in general use at present, but the wood which covers the hill is called "Gopa Wood," and a house at the foot of the hill bears the name "Tan y Gopa." Copa'r Wylfa is probably the spur that juts out from the lower part of the slope (cf. Lewis *supra*).

Visited March, 1914, March 23 and Aug. 26, 1922, and Dec. 7, 1926.
[Inventory, No. 6, p. 2.]

A VANISHED MAENHIR: MOELFRE.

The following entry appears in the *Parochialia*, i, 43, under Abergele:—"Mae Karreg gwedi i chodi ar i phen ar vynydh Moelvre ycha" (There is a standing stone on Moelfre Uchaf). In the *Parochialia*, the Abergele Moelfre is styled "Upper" (Uchaf) and that in Bettws parish "Lower" (Isaf) [i, 45]. At the present day the former is called "Isaf," and the latter "Uchaf."

There is no standing stone now on either Moelfre.

ALLEGED ROMAN MINES: FFOS Y BLEIDDIAID.

SITE. Ffos y Bleiddiaid (The Fosse of the Wolves) is a natural fissure, varying from 15 to 25 ft. wide, and 1,000 ft. long, which cleaves, right across, the northern slope of the hill the summit of which is occupied by the fort of Castell Cawr (q.v.).

[6 in. O.S. sheet iv, S.E. : lat. 53° 16' 41-44" ; long. 3° 35' 41-58".]

REFERENCES. Writing in 1856, the Rev. W. Davis, in his *Handbook for the Vale of Clwyd* (pp. 38-9), states that here are "some of the largest and most perfect Roman mines in Britain. . . . In driving a level into the mountain, some years ago, the miners discovered that the Romans had been deep in the bowels of the earth before them. They had followed the vein where it was large enough to admit of a small man, and where it opened out into a larger chamber they had cleared it quite away. When the vein became too small to admit a man, they were obliged to relinquish the ore. Some curious hammers and tools, but almost decayed into dust, were found in these chambers, also the golden hilt of a Roman sword. The Romans seem to have worked these mines completely out."

Mining operations were conducted on this mountain in the eighteenth century, as the following inscription, which appears in a Bible dated 1753 in Abergele Church vestry, testifies:—"The Gift of Edward Lloyd, Esq., of Pengwern, Francis Smedley, of Holywell, Gent & Co., mine adventurers on the mountain above the town of Abbergelly." Some 40 or 45 yds. below the Ffos, and parallel with it,

is a series of old workings or diggings, and lower down are others. There are also to be seen in a field less than 200 yds. to the N.E. of the north-eastern extremity of the Ffos the remains of a modern mine.

In his *Records of Denbigh* (1860), pp. 223-4, the Rev. J. Williams (Glanmor), after quoting, apparently, from Davis's *Handbook*, the observations given above, remarks: "The level which drains these works partly supplies the town with water. The mines at Cae'rgwaith, at the foot of the same hill, are comparatively modern, and were, we believe, very productive until the water became too great for the means of drainage then applicable. A few years since, a considerable sum was expended here upon buildings and powerful machinery; but, somehow or other, the works, with every prospect of success, were abandoned. The 'bowels' of this great rock have been proved to form a vast magazine of wealth. Some 40 years ago lead was raised in solid masses of several hundred-weights each, out of a shaft about a furlong to the east of the last-named spot, but the speculators had not the means to compete with the constant influx of water. The old mines of Tyddyn Morgan, in the same hill, were wonderfully productive a century back."

NAME. The Rev. W. Davis, in the work already referred to (p. 39), writes: "This is called Ffos-y-bleiddiaid . . . but the proper appellation for this place is Ffos y Rhufeiniaid or the Roman fosse." Samuel Lewis, in his *Topographical Dictionary* (1842²), under Abergele, also speaks of it as Ffos-y-Rhufeiniaid. Pennant (*Tours*, iii, p. 148) calls the fissure Ffos-y-bleiddiaid and suggests that it was so named from the frequency of those animals in these parts. The only name by which it is at present locally known is Ffos y Bleiddiaid.

Seen several times.

[*Inventory*, No. 12, p. 6.]

LOOPED PALSTAVE: NEAR BERTH TOPIC.

In the University College Museum, Aberystwyth, is a large bronze celt, said to have been found in 1842 in a field S.E. of Abergele, where Roman coins [*vide* p. 44] were discovered in the same year.

The celt, which is of the palstave variety, with loop, is 7 in. long and 3 in. across the cutting edge.

No record exists as to who the finder was, or how it came to be deposited in the Aberystwyth Museum.

Seen Aug. 20, 1925.

ROMAN BRONZE VESSELS: PLAS UCHAF.

DISCOVERY. These vessels were found in, or about, the year 1862, some 440 yards to the S.S.W. of the house of Plas Uchaf, in a field which slopes down in a S.W. direction towards a tributary of the River Gele, called Afon Ysgeiriallt. The field in question was then, as it is in the 6-in. Ordnance Map of 1910-11, divided into three fields, bearing the names of Cae Murddyn Uchaf—to the S.E., Cae Murddyn

Isaf—in the centre, and Bryniau Brain—to the N.W. The utensils were discovered in the middle field (Cae Murddyn Isaf) fairly low down the slope [6 in. O.S. sheet iv, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 15' 53''$; long. $3^{\circ} 34' 51''$ approx.]. The finder, David Hughes, of Pont-y-ddol, one of the servants of Plas Uchaf, came upon them while ploughing the field. They were buried in the ground in sets, or “ nests,” i.e. packed one within another according to shape and size, and were very numerous. According to Owen Jones’s *Cymru*, a Welsh Dictionary (1875, s. v. Abergeley), they numbered about 50. Mr. Robert Davies, of Chapel Street, Abergele (died May 25, 1924, aged 86), who was also a servant at Plas Uchaf at the time and married Elizabeth Hughes, a granddaughter of the farmer, Mr. William Hughes, with whom she lived, informed the writer that the vessels would fill a wheel-barrow. The young man who discovered them carried them to the farm in a sack and placed them under the manger in a stable.

SUBSEQUENT HISTORY AND PRESENT LOCATION. The farmer, W. Hughes, disposed of the bulk of the hoard, as old iron, to a local dealer of the name of Owen Jones, Penybont. Some ten pieces were retained, at the suggestion of a servant girl—Mary Owens, who came from Eglwys Bach. Nine of these were subsequently acquired by Mrs. E. M. Humphreys (*née* Carmichael), of the Cambrian Arms, Pensarn—four at first, Nos. 1, 2, 4, and 5 described below, and the rest, Nos. 6–10, afterwards. At her death in 1890, they passed to her brother, Mr. D. C. Carmichael, of Dowlais, South Wales, who left them, when he died in 1910, to his nephew, Mr. John Hannah, Chemist, Abergele. In January, 1925, Mr. Hannah (died 1926), through the writer, presented the vessels to St. Asaph Cathedral, in the Chapter House of which they are kept in a show case.

The tenth piece, a colander or strainer, No. 3 described below, came into the possession of the late Mr. John Jones, Confectioner, Jasmine Villa, Abergele. From him it was inherited by his daughter, Mrs. Parker-Davies, Dolannog, Pensarn, who died in July, 1926. In accordance with her wish, the strainer was, in March, 1927, presented to the Bangor University College Museum.

DESCRIPTION. The following is a description of the four vessels originally acquired by Mrs. E. M. Humphreys, and of the colander, from the pen of the late Mr. H. Ecroyd Smith, Egremont, Birkenhead [*Transactions of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire*, New Series (1869), ix, 19] :—

1. “ A *cup*, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height by 3 inches in diameter ; capacity $2\frac{1}{2}$ oz.” The cup is “ of an elegant and classical bowl-like form, with small projecting rim moulded within. It has been cast in bronze, and the solid base displays below a raised button with a still higher central knob ; its upper (inner) surface being convex, with a decided apex. This little *scyphus* . . . has been plated with tin over the whole inner surface.”

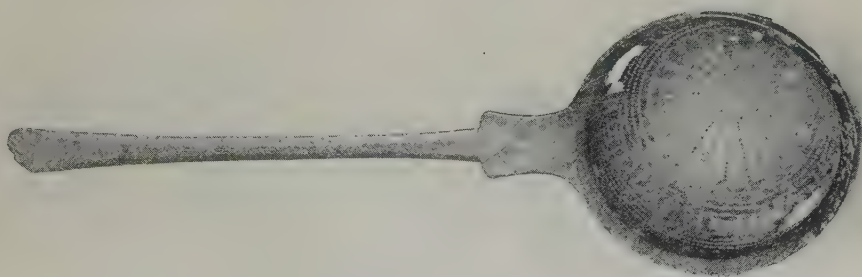
2. “ A *platter*, $1\frac{3}{8}$ in. high, and $6\frac{1}{4}$ in. diameter across the rim, $5\frac{1}{4}$ in. at the base ; capacity 9 or 10 ounces.”

“ The Platter, Waiter, or Salver is apparently a specimen of the Roman *scutella* or *patera*. . . . Our Platter is circular, and in general

character resembles the cup, but its rim possesses three narrow line mouldings in place of the single broader one of the smaller vessel. Here, the broad and flat bottom constitutes the base, concave inside, with the bare central apex, visible through the plating; the outside



FIG. 8—ROMAN BRONZE VESSELS, PLAS UCHAF,
ABERGELE.



[Photo. by Mr. R. S. Rowlands.

FIG. 9—COLANDER FROM PLAS UCHAF.

being sufficiently concave to enable its central button to be level with the outer rim, where a band of slight lathe-grooves appears in the *tin-plating*, which completely envelopes the platter inside and out, and looks, with little exception, fresh as from the hands of the artizan."

3. "A *strainer-ladle* or colander, 12 inches long, the bowl $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches diameter, 2 inches deep." This "is formed of bronze and remains nearly perfect, though thin and unplated. It belongs rather

to the class termed *Trulla* than *Cola*, the latter being of greater size, and chiefly used for cooling wine, which was poured over ice (held in the *Colum*) into a larger bowl beneath. The smaller variety, like our example, combined the uses of both ladle and strainer” The perforation is executed in an elegant pattern . . . bearing “a floral radiation of pierced work in the centre or base, surmounted by a broad border in a variety of the beautiful Greek fret which . . . was frequently reproduced on vases by painting, as also in Mosaic work, stucco and masonry.”

4. “A *saucepan*, 2 in. high by $4\frac{1}{2}$ in., exclusive of the handle, which is 4 in. long; capacity $10\frac{3}{4}$ to 11 ounces.” This saucepan or skillet “belongs to a class of vessels, *patellae*, in constant use in all houses of the better class. It consists of a deep bowl-shaped receptacle, recurved at the rim and furnished with a horizontal and flat handle, broadening outwards—the extremity being semi-circular—enclosing centrally a pierced or perforated trefoil, the lower lobe of which is somewhat narrower and more elongated than the others, and from its point an incised line or groove, half an inch long, tapers off. . . . On the right of the upper surface of this handle, obscured by rust and much corroded, I detected the subjoined letters, which no doubt formed part of the inscription of the maker’s name, the latter line evidently being *Luaminus F(ecit)*—

CA - - - - V

LVAM·NVS F.

These letters are incised, but the names upon metal vessels are usually stamped. The bowl is quite plain, with the exception of the base, which is slightly concave and has an outer line moulding and a central button, but the rim of the latter is not sufficiently produced to the level of the former to constitute part of the ‘rest.’ The inner surface was originally tinned over, but the plating has mostly been eroded.”

The present writer, failing to detect the alleged lettering on this vessel, submitted it for examination to Mr. Reginald A. Smith, of the British Museum, who wrote Jan. 30, 1925 :—“The maker’s name on the skillet handle seems to me (and to others here) to be imaginary. It should be in raised letters within an oblong panel.”

5. “A second *saucepan* of similar size, but differing in ornament; capacity 11 ounces.” This skillet “is of the same general form as the last described and though of similar capacity it fits into No. 4 up to the rim; it differs however in the handle and base moulding. The handle bears curved line moulding along the margins of the contracted portion, and concentric ones at the semi-circular extremity, the centre of the inner one being perforated for easy suspension of the vessel when not in use. The base has an outer rim, two concentric and concave mouldings, with a central button. This button and the small outer rim of the inner band form part of the ‘rest,’ having a common level. Inside the bottom is convex, its centre also possessing concentric mouldings, and the intermediate hollows still display traces of the original tin-plating which, as in the former case, frequent scouring in process of time has all but completely removed.”

Now follow short descriptions of the five vessels which came into the possession of Mrs. Humphreys subsequently to Nos. 1, 2, 4, and 5.

6. A *platter*, slightly larger than No. 2, being $6\frac{3}{8}$ in. in diameter across the rim, and $5\frac{7}{8}$ in. at the base; $\frac{7}{8}$ in. high. The side of this is nearly at a right-angle to the base and is less concave than that of No. 2. The rim also is slighter.

7. A *skillet*, similar to No. 5, but deeper, being $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. deep as against its $1\frac{3}{8}$ in. The handle is of the same size and pattern, but the perforation is a little smaller. The recurving rim around the bowl is much less, and the base has 3 and not 2 "concentric and concave mouldings with a centre button," the latter in this case being smaller. The coloration of the outside of the bowl shows that it was inside No. 5 or a similar skillet when found, the outline of the latter being clearly marked on the outer surface of the former.

8 and 9. Two small *dishes* (*paterae*), 3 in. across the mouth and $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. in height; diameter of base, outside, 2 in. One dish goes into the other. The material is the same as that of the other vessels. Both have small projecting rims, which are moulded. On the underside of the two are incised in cursive script (*graffito*) the letters INDUS, followed by a character conjectured by Mr. W. Thompson Watkin (*Arch. Journal*, 1886, p. 285) to be $\perp$, i.e. F on its back, representing *Fecit* (made). According to Mr. Reginald A. Smith, of the British Museum, who examined these little pans in January, 1925, the character following INDUS is not $\perp$ but L with the horizontal limb crossed, representing, as is usually supposed, "Lex" or "Lector," "but in this case may be 'Libertas'." "It was the usual practice," so writes Mr. Smith, "to scratch a name or identification mark on the bottom of plate."

10. A *cup* similar to No. 1, but larger in size, being 4 in. in diameter across the rim, and about 2 in. in height. A considerable portion of this vessel is broken off and lost.

The letters D.C.C. scratched on the vessels represent D. C. Carmichael, who once owned them.

CHARACTER OF OBJECTS. These vessels belong to a class of antiquities which have been supposed to display certain Celtic as well as Roman features, and have consequently been styled, sometimes "Kelto-Roman," as, for instance, by the late Mr. J. Romilly Allen (*Arch. Camb.*, 1901, pp. 20 ff.), and sometimes "Romano-British," as by the late Mr. H. Ecroyd Smith. But inasmuch as they were probably all made in Italy, the right term to apply to them is "Roman." Referring to the original centre at which vessels of this description were made, the late Professor Haverfield (*Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries*, 1896, p. 237) states that it (the original centre) appeared to have been "at or near Herculaneum, on the Bay of Naples." "There at least," so he writes, "we can trace two firms, one of Cippii and the other of Ansii, who manufactured these saucepanlike objects, and, as it seems, exported them beyond the frontiers of the Empire, and especially into Northern Europe."

As regards the date of the Abergele vessels, Mr. Reginald Smith is of opinion that they should be assigned to the early years of the second century of our era.

OTHER EXAMPLES FROM WALES. A platter very similar to No. 2 was found associated with a bronze mirror at Pant Fadog, on the farm of Llechwedd Du Bach, near the road from Talsarnau to Harlech, in Merionethshire, about 1860. It is described by Dr. Cyril Fox, of the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff, where it is now preserved, in the *Antiquaries Journal* for Jan., 1925, pp. 255–6, as “of tinned bronze, of excellent workmanship; cast and finished on the lathe. Its base, 5·9 in. in diameter, is slightly dished (concave), with a central button, and presents externally a concentric hollow moulding emphasizing the angle formed by the junction of the base and rim. The latter, 0·9 in. in height, is modelled with care. The wall is slightly convex, the lip flares sharply outwards.”

For other specimens of “skillets” see “Roman Bronze Vessels” under Llantysilio parish.

The Abergele vessels were first seen in Aug., 1915, except No. 4 (strainer), which was examined Oct. 31, 1922.

Particulars of discovery were obtained from Mr. Robert Davies and Mrs. Davies, Chapel Street, Abergele, who were interviewed several times. The former also conducted the writer to the site of the discovery in August, 1915.,

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1901, pp. 20 ff. *Inventory*, No. 18, pp. 7, 8.]

ROMAN COINS: BRON-Y-BERLLAN.

DISCOVERY. The following account of the discovery of the coins is given in a MS. *History of Abergele* in the National Library of Wales [N.L.W. MS. 1619E—Kinnel MS. 119], p. 46 :—“About the year 1842 a large quantity of silver coins was found in a ditch on the right-hand side close to the road leading from Abergele to Rhuddlan, and near the corner where the Pwllgloyw Lane enters the main road. They were found so near the surface that the water trickled over a portion of the earthen vessel in which they were contained. They were, when discovered, closely matted together, but in a high state of preservation, with the Emperors’ head standing out in bold relief. Some of the inscriptions were obliterated. They were coins of the Caesars Vespasian, Domitian, Trajan, Hadrian, etc. The persons who found them were Robert Williams, Penygraig [a labourer], Richard Roberts, and David Davies, Palmant [a cottage formerly belonging to Tandderwen]. According to the statement of the last, the pot, which, if entire, would hold about a quart (but the upper portion of it had mouldered away), when discovered weighed, with the coins, 5½ lbs. Sir John Hay Williams, Bart., the owner of the land, who claimed the money, gave the three men a sovereign each.”

SITE. The ditch in which the hoard was found, which is a fairly deep water-course, runs along the w. side of the hedge forming the E. boundary of the allotments—formerly three fields called Caeau

Stalwyn—which lie between the Abergele and Rhuddlan main road, and Bryn Coch, a house on the road leading to St. George. On July 18, 1918, the writer was conducted to the site of the discovery by the late Mr. Robert Davies, Chapel Street, Abergele (died May 28, 1924, aged 86), son of David Davies, one of the finders. Mr. R. Davies pointed out that the ditch belonged to the field on the E. of the hedge, called Gwern y Ffynnon, then the property of Sir J. Hay Williams, Bart., of Bodelwyddan, and part of Bron-y-berllan farm.

REFERENCES. The “find” is referred to in W. Davis’s *Handbook for the Vale of Clwyd* (1857), p. 39, and in the Rev. Owen Jones of Llandudno’s *Welsh Topographical Dictionary*, entitled “Cymru,” Vol. I, p. 45 (s.v. Abergele). The former writes: “A few years ago, an earthenware vase was found in a field near Abergele about a mile from the above named fortification (Castell Cawr) containing about 800 Roman coins. They were silver, and were of various impressions bearing date up to about the time the Romans gave up their rule of Britain. They were found by men cutting drains on a field belonging to a farm called Bron-y-berllan, the property of Sir John Hay Williams, Bart., Bodelwyddan.”

Mr. Owen Jones’s account runs (translated): “In 1848, 9 pounds of coins were found in a Roman earthenware vessel of skilful make, in a field belonging to Bron-y-berllan near Glan-y-weirglodd. Among them were some bearing the image and superscription of Philip of Macedonia, Caesar, Nero, Trajan, Antoninus Pius, etc.”

On October 26, 1918, the following entries *re* the “find” from a MS. Journal of Sir John Hay Williams were received from Lady Verney, of Rhianva, Menai Bridge, daughter of Sir John: “Feb. 3rd, 1842 (written in London), Crowther [Sir John’s agent] sent me up some curious coins found at Bron-y-berllan in an earthen-pot in a field, the heads of several Roman Emperors. The men kept back 59 pieces which the Clerk of the Lordship of Denbigh got from them by threats.”

Written at Bodelwyddan (end of February): “Crowther gave me a very large collection of silver coins with pieces of the earthen vessel that contained them. They were found in a field of mine on Bron-y-berllan farm by some men who were digging a ditch. The men kept back a great many of them and would doubtless have done so with them all, but they were so incrustated with dirt and so stuck together they looked like buttons in copper. Crowther contrived to clean them, and they were in excellent condition.”

SUBSEQUENT HISTORY. A further note states that Sir John took the coins—which were probably claimed by the Crown as Treasure Trove—to the British Museum. The best were retained whilst the rest were returned to Sir John, at whose death they passed into the possession of his daughter, Lady Margaret M. Verney, who, in 1918, presented the same to the University College of N. Wales, Bangor, where they are preserved.

A few of the coins were given by the workmen to Mr. John Jones, Analytical Chemist, Jessamine Cottage, Abergele, to whom they were brought to be disentangled, as they were caked together. Three or

four of these were in the possession of Mrs. Parker Davies (died 1926), Dolannog, Pensarn, daughter of the said Mr. J. Jones. One of the coins is that of Tetricus (268–273 A.D.).

BANGOR COINS. The following is a rough analysis of the coins housed at the Bangor University College made by the writer August 21, 1918 :—

Republic	about 21
[Many of these are worn smooth, but the prow showed on most of them.]	
Mark Antony (died B.C. 30)	1
Nero (54–69)	2
Galba (68–69)	1
Otho (69)	1
Vitellius (69)	2
Vespasian (69–79)	93
Titus Vespasian (79–81)	2
Julia (wife of Titus)	2
Domitian (81–96)	11
Nerva (96–98)	4
Trajan (98–117)	40
Marciana (sister of Trajan)	2
Hadrian (117–138)	30
Sabina (wife of Hadrian)	3
Aelius (adopted son of Hadrian)	1
Antoninus Pius (138–161)	32
Faustina Pia (wife of Antoninus Pius)	11
Marcus Aurelius (161–180)	6
Faustina (wife of Marcus Aurelius)	27
L. Aurelius Verus (161–169)	4
Commodus (180–192)	6
Crispina (wife of Commodus)	1
Septimius Severus (193–211)	2
Elagabalus (218–222)	1
Macrianus (260–262)	3

A more or less detailed description of a few examples follows :—

- (1) Obverse : Mark Antony.
Legend : ANTONIVS AVGV R III VIR.
R[ei] P[ublicae] C[onstituendae].
- (2) Ob. : Head of Nero.
Leg. : NERO CAESAR AVGVSTVS.
Rev. : Jupiter (to left).
Leg. : JUPITER CUSTOS.
- (3) Ob. : A VITELLIVS GERM AVG TRP.
Rev. : PONT MAXIM.
- (4) (a) Ob. : Vespasian.
Leg. : VESPASIANVS AVG.
Rev. : Judaea seated on the ground at the foot of a trophy, weeping.
Leg. : IVDAEA.
(b) Rev. SPQR inside oak wreath.

- (5) Ob.: Titus Vespasian.
Leg.: IMP TITVS CAES VESPASIAN AVG PM.
- (6) Ob.: Head of Domitian.
Leg.: CAES DOMIT AVG GERM PM TRP XIII (or xv).
Rev.: IMP XXII COS XVII GENIO SPQR.
- (7) Ob.: Nerva.
Leg.: IMP NERVA CAES AVG PM TRP COS III PP.
Rev.: Fortuna AVGVSTI.
- (8) Ob.: IMP TRAIANO AVG GER DAC. PM TRP COS VI (?) PP.
Rev.: SPQR OPTIMO PRINCIPI.
- (9) Ob.: MARCIANA AVG SOROR IMP TRAIANI CAES AVG GERMA
DAC COS VI PP.
Rev.: NAT PIA AVG.
- (10) Ob.: SABINA AVGVSTA.
Rev.: VENERI GENETRICI.
- (11) Ob.: AELIVS CAESAR.
Rev. COS II TR POT.
- (12) Ob.: FAUSTINA AVG PIA.
Rev.: CONCORDIA.
- (13) (a) Ob.: DIVA FAVSTINA.
Rev.: Figure of Phœnix.
Leg.: CONSECRATIO.
(b) Rev.: AETERNITAS.
(c) Rev.: PIETAS AVG.
- (14) Ob.: DIVVS VERVS.
Rev.: Eagle.
Leg.: CONSECRATIO.
- (15) Ob.: CRISPINA AVGVSTA.
Rev.: JUNO.
- (16) Ob.: L. SEP. SEVERVS AVG IMP VIII.
Rev.: Elephant.
Leg.: MUNIFICENTIA AVG.

The silver coins at Bangor number between 330 and 350. With them are about 50 brasses of various sizes. As these, or at least many of them, belong to a considerably later period than the silver ones, one might suspect that they originally formed no part of the Abergele hoard, but Davis (*Handbook for the Vale of Clwyd*), as we saw, says that the coins "were of various impressions bearing date up to about the time the Romans gave up their rule of Britain."

In September, 1858, there were exhibited by the Rev. E. L. Barnwell, at the temporary Museum held in connection with the Rhyl Meeting of the *Cambrian Archaeological Association*, "base denarii of Valerian and Pompeian families, and one silver-washed of Valerianus II [died A.D. 268], all found at Abergele, with a large quantity of similar kind" (*Arch. Camb.*, 1858, p. 466). These were probably specimens from the hoard discovered on Bron-y-berllan farm in 1842.

ROMAN COIN: TAN YR OGO.

At the Museum held in connection with the Rhyl Meeting of the *Cambrian Archaeological Association*, 1858, a denarius of Vespasian found at Twn y Rogo [Tan yr Ogo] was exhibited by Mr. Nott, of Rhyl (*Arch. Camb.*, 1858, p. 467).

Tan yr Ogo is a house on the main road to Llanddulas about $1\frac{3}{4}$ m. w. of Abergele.

The present whereabouts of the coin are not known. The Rev. F. G. Nott, Vicar of Fownhope, Hereford, son of the exhibitor, in a communication dated June 24, 1925, informed the writer that he never heard his father speak of any Roman coin in his possession.

ABERWHILER.

TUMULUS: MOEL Y PARC.

SITE. This stands on Moel y Parc, about 16 paces w. from the s.w. corner of a wooded protrusion of the County of Flint into that of Denbigh.

[6 in. O.S. sheet ix, S.E. ; lat., $53^{\circ} 13' 12''$; long. $3^{\circ} 19' 10''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The tumulus, which is situated on the top of a tiny hillock, is small in size, being only about 30 paces in circumference and $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. It is composed of mountain soil and some stones, and covered with turf and heather. Upon its summit is a pile of stones of recent erection. About 130 paces to the E. and N.E. respectively, in Flintshire, are two other small tumuli. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

Seen Feb. 21, 1928.

TUMULUS: ABERWHILER FARM.

SITE. This stands in Cae Bricks, the second field in a direct line to the N.E. of Aberwhiler farmhouse. The exact spot is about 37 paces both from the N. hedge and from the bye-road that passes between the two fields in question. Owner : Miss M. L. Vernon, of Bryngwyn Hall ; tenant : Mr. W. Jones.

[6 in. O.S. sheet ix, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 13' 16''$; long. $3^{\circ} 20' 38''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The tumulus, which is situated on a gentle slope, is approximately 90 paces in circumference, 4 ft. high on the upper side and 6 ft. on the lower. It has been under cultivation for many years. The soil of which it is composed is somewhat sandy, and different from that of the field around. Possibly it was obtained from the river Whiler close by. Frederick Williams, of Geinas, Bodfari, an elderly man, who, in his younger days, was servant at the farm, and ploughed the tumulus over many a time, assured the writer that it has been worn down considerably within his memory. Elevation : below contour line 200.

Seen Ap. 3, 1923.

MOUND : PENUCHA.

In the third field to the E. of Penucha, the residence of Sir J. Herbert Lewis, and the one on the opposite side of the road from Brynhyfryd, is a large mound measuring about 150 paces in circumference, and 3 ft. in height.

There are several tumuli in the neighbourhood (in Flintshire), but this differs from them in shape and probably is a natural formation. The field, which is called Cae Mynydd Uchaf, belongs to Penucha Farm, the landlord being Mr. Davey, of Maesmynan.

Mr. W. J. Hemp, F.S.A., picked up a worked flint on this mound in 1922.

Seen Dec. 26, 1922.

ANCIENT ROAD.

COURSE AND CHARACTER. This old road enters Denbighshire (Aberwhiler Parish) from Flintshire at a point exactly 2 m. S.E. of Bodfari Church. The part that is in Flintshire starts at Afon Wen, a mile to the S.S.E. of Caerwys Church. It crosses the River Chwiler and wends its way up a narrow valley in a S.S.W. direction. After emerging into Denbighshire it is little better than a mountain track for a mile and more. At the boundary it is a thousand feet above sea level. Then it gradually descends the slope to an altitude of 700 or 800 ft., and skirts the mountain on which the camp, Penycloddiau, is situate. 2 m. S. of the spot where it enters Denbighshire it turns to the N.E. up the dingle between Penycloddiau and Moel Arthur, and crosses the boundary again into Flintshire.

DATE. Locally it is sometimes given the name of Roman Road, but for no other reason apparently than that most ancient roads and camps are popularly called Roman. It is not, however, at all improbable that this track, like similar hill-side tracks, may date back to prehistoric times.

Seen Sept. 7, 1920.

MOUND : MAES MYNAN.

SITE. This stands on rising ground in a narrow strip of wood between the fields called Cae-bricks to the S. and Cae Mari Williams (or Cae Coch) to the N., about a quarter of a mile to the W.N.W. of Maes Mynan house, and nearly 200 yds. to the N. of the main road to Denbigh. Maes Mynan is about $\frac{3}{4}$ m. S.W. of Caerwys.

[6 in. O.S. sheet ix, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 14' 18''$; long. $3^{\circ} 19' 46''$.]

DESCRIPTION.—It is a large mound measuring about 120 paces in circumference and on an average 20 ft. in height. It is not quite regularly round, the slope on the S.W. side being longer and more gradual than on other sides. At present several trees grow upon it, and brambles cover it in places. To the S.S.W. is a fairly large pit, whence it might possibly be conjectured that some of the soil of the mound was dug, but the writer was assured by Mr. Thomas Hampson

(died Jan. 17, 1925), who was for years game-keeper at Maesmynan, that the soil of the mound is different from that of the surrounding ground, and was probably obtained from the River Chwiler.

It has been suggested that this mound was a motte connected with Llewelyn ap Griffith's house—Llys Maes Mynan, cf. Pennant's *Tours* ii, 139.

EXCAVATION. In 1896 Mr. A. Foulkes Roberts, of Denbigh, Dr. Lloyd Roberts, then of Colwyn Bay, and Mr. J. P. Earwaker, M.A., F.S.A., with the permission and co-operation of the late Mr. Bickerton, of Maes Mynan, made a section E. and W., about 3 or 4 ft. wide, through the upper part of the mound. The writer was assured by Mr. Foulkes Roberts that nothing of any interest was found.* To all appearance the trench was not dug deep enough to reach a primary interment, supposing the mound to be sepulchral.

ALLEGED PREVIOUS REFERENCE. In the Denbighshire *Inventory* of the Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments (1914), p. 10, the following *Note* appears:—"Edward Lhuyd, writing of this tumulus about the year 1698 [*Parochialia* i, 69], describes it as "a kind of Cromlech or cistfaen by Maesmynan where Mynan the giant lay buried."" There is not the slightest ground for supposing that Lhuyd or his correspondent is referring to the mound in question, of which the description, "a kind of cromlech or cistfaen," is singularly inappropriate. The site of the latter is not now known.

Visited in 1914 and June 22, 1922.

BRONZE SPEARHEAD: MAES MYNAN WOOD.

This was discovered by the late Mr. T. P. Edwards (Caerwysyn), of Caerwys, and later of Blaenau Ffestiniog, a good many years ago, near the mouth of the cave which is in Coed [wood of] Maes Mynan, about $\frac{1}{2}$ ml. N.N.E. of the house. [6 in. O.S. sheet ix, N.E.] Mr. Edwards informed the writer, in a letter dated "Arenig, Bala, May 8, 1916," that he gave the implement ("blaengwaywffon") to the late Mr. T. M. Morris, of the "Liver Establishment," Carnarvon. What became of it at his death is not known.

ACTON.

BRONZE IMPLEMENTS: RHOSNESNEY.

DISCOVERY. These were discovered not long before the year 1874 in a field called Cae Aderyn y Bwn (Field of the Bittern), part of the Acton Park Estate, when the field was being prepared for a nursery. The field is now part of the garden of Acton Nursery, about $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. to the N.E. of Wrexham Parish Church.

* The assertion made in the *Inventory* (No. 21, p. 10) that "according to Thomas Hampson now living at Fron Haul, Caerwys, who assisted in the work, 'bones and what resembled two swords were found,'" is without foundation. Mr. Hampson, who was game-keeper at Maes Mynan at the time, informed the writer that he took no part whatsoever in the excavation, nor was he present as a witness.

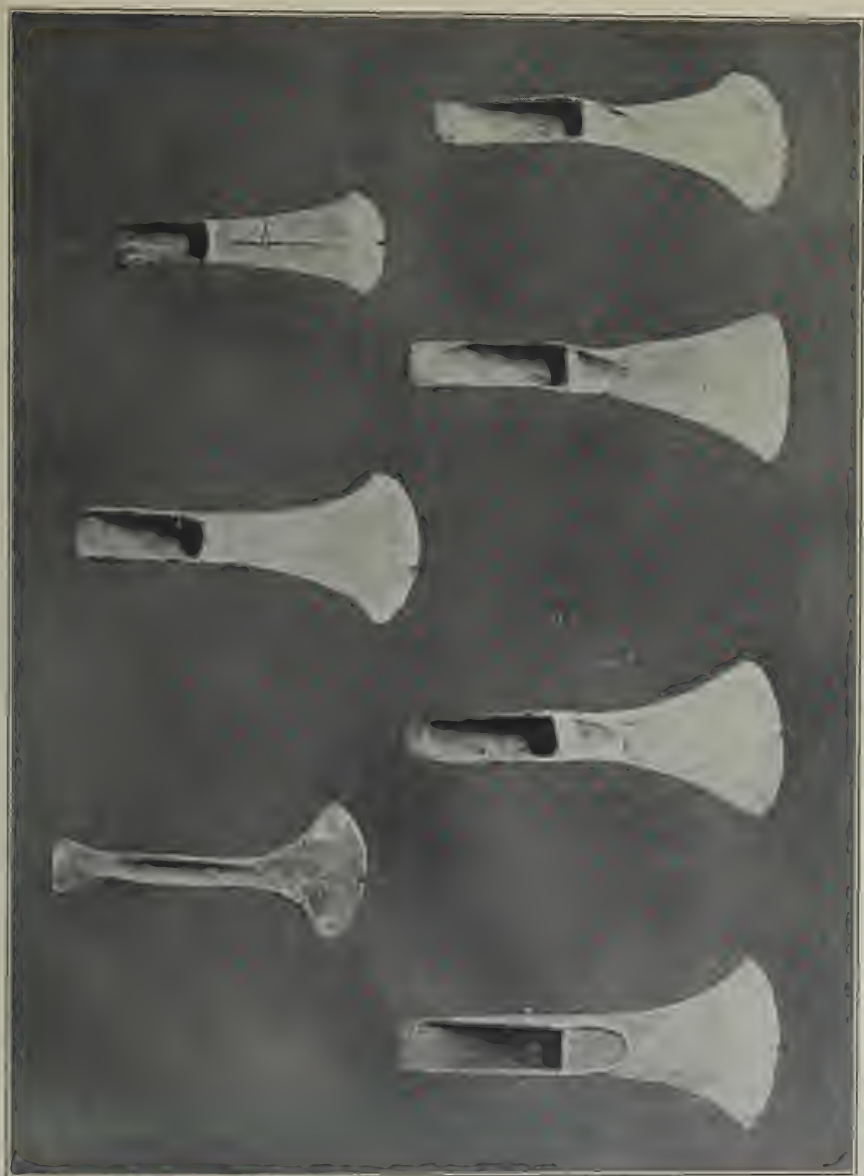


FIG. 10—BRONZE IMPLEMENTS FROM RHOSNESNEY.

DESCRIPTION. The implements, which formed a small hoard numbering 12, consisted of:—

(a) *Six* bronze *palstaves* of the ordinary type, all the same size, that is, 6 in. long, and cast in the same mould, but not subjected to any subsequent finishing process, such as grinding the edges. A *seventh* of somewhat slighter character was also found, but was broken in half.



FIG. 11—FROM RHOSNESNEY.

(b) *Three* other bronze *celts*, of very unusual description, 6 in. long and not having undergone a finishing process. "The peculiarity of these implements consists in the long narrow shank, the end of which spreads out in an unusual manner." The shanks are not provided with stop-ridges or rivet-holes whereby handles or shafts might be secured, and the flanges are so small as to be useless. A *fourth* was also found, but with the head missing.

(c) *One* small *knife* or *dagger*, about 3 in. in length, and proportionately narrow, fresh from the mould like the rest, and not having the usual holes for the rivets by which it was to be fastened to its handle.

These weapons, which have "the appearance of having been washed over with tin," were supposed by the late Rev. E. L. Barnwell to be part of the stock of some manufacturer or dealer.

SUBSEQUENT HISTORY. Originally belonging to Sir R. A. Cunliffe, of Acton Park, the implements passed, at his death, to his son, Sir Foster H. Egerton Cunliffe, Fellow of All Souls, Oxford, who was killed in action in the Great War, July 10, 1916. They then became the property of his brother, Sir Neville Cunliffe, Bart., who presented them, in 1918, to the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1875, pp. 70 f. (Article by E. L. Barnwell), *Inventory*, No. 31, p. 12.]

BERSHAM.

ALLEGED SITE OF A CAIRN: OFFA TERRACE.

In the *Inventory* (No. 42, p. 15) we read: "At the west end of the cottages [Offa Terrace] on the South side of the road [6 in. O.S. sheet xxviii, S.E.: lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 35''$; long. $3^{\circ} 0' 24''$] is a rounded hillock which is probably the site of Carnedd Efa."

At the site indicated, and around, no traces of a cairn are detectable. "Carnedd Efa" is regarded in the *Inventory* (and no doubt correctly) as the original form of the name "Canna Deva," which was applied until recently to the cottages now re-named Offa Terrace, and which appears in the King's Rent Book for 1792-1802 as Carn y Ddefa.

Spot visited June 18, 1928.

BETTWS YN RHOS.

DESTROYED CAIRN OR TUMULUS: Y GARNEDD.

Just outside the E. end of Coed Coch Park, about $\frac{3}{4}$ m. E.N.E. of the mansion, are two houses bearing the names Garnedd Uchaf (formerly called "Y Garnedd") and Garnedd Isaf (a modern house), and close by in the park is a wood called Coed Ffridd-y-Garnedd. These names testify to the existence at one time of a cairn in the immediate vicinity. At present, however, no trace of it can be detected. As the correspondent of Edward Lhuyd (*Parochialia* i, 45) only refers to the name as that of a cottage—"Karnedh Heilin yn hre Maes-y-gwyg, enw Ty bychan"—it is possible that the cairn had disappeared before that date (*circa* 1690). The name "Carnedd Heilyn" (for "Y Garnedd") is not now known, but it appears in the church registers of Bettws in 1738 and 1748.

Inspection made June 23, 1920, and Nov. 18, 1926.

SPINDLE WHORL: TROFARTH.

In 1913 a small spindle whorl, about an inch in diameter and a little over $\frac{1}{2}$ in. deep, with outer edges bevelled, was picked up by Mr. Norman Edwards, son of the Vicar of Trofarth (died 1919), in a ploughed field generally called Tyn-y-ffridd, belonging to Ffridd-y-Castell. The field in question is about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. to the S. of Trofarth Church.

Seen in 1914.

ROMAN SILVER COIN: COED COCH.

The exact spot where this coin was found is not known, but according to the Hon. Mrs. Brodrick, who resides at Coed Coch, where the coin is preserved, it was in the immediate neighbourhood. It is a quinarius, *i.e.* half a denarius.

Obverse: Laureated head of Vespasian, to right.

Legend: IMP CAES VES AVG P M COS IIII.

[Imperator Caesar Vespasianus Augustus Pontifex Maximus Consul IIII.]

Reverse: Sacerdotal instruments (simpulum, lituus, etc.).

Legend: AVGVR TRI POT (Tribunitia Potestate).

[Cohen, vol. i, p. 371, No. 45.]

Seen Aug., 1915.

BROUGHTON.

CAMP: BRYN-Y-GAER.



FIG. 12—BRYN-Y-GAER CAMP

SITE. This camp is situated on the ridge of the mountain which lies between the Moss Valley and Brymbo, some 2 m. to the N.W. of Wrexham. Broughton Church and Vicarage, as well as several other houses, stand within the area of the camp.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxviii, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 13-25''$; long. $3^{\circ} 2' 5-18''$.]

DESCRIPTION. Building operations have played havoc with this camp. In many places the defences have been tampered with, while here and there they have been completely obliterated. Starting a perambulation of the single earthen rampart, which constitutes the only artificial protection of the camp, just outside the Vicarage grounds to the N.W. of the house, we find that here it is in a fairly good state of preservation, being 5 or 6 yds. higher than the interior area. For over 100 yds. it runs in a northerly direction, forming the western boundary of a field bearing the name of Erw-y-Gaer. Then it turns E.S.E. and extends to the road—Bryn-y-Gaer Road. In the Vicarage field on the other side of the road no trace of it can be detected. Further on, in a S.E. and S. direction, there may be just a trace of it skirting the churchyard. Here, however, and for some distance beyond, a strong rampart would be unnecessary, as there is a precipitous drop in the ground. Behind the cottages which stand at the top of Longview Road, it is to be seen quite distinctly skirting on the W. the lane leading to a house called 2, Rowlands Road. The entrance seems to have been where this house stands at the upper end of Mathias Road, for in the field to the S.W. of the house the rampart incurves. After continuing for a short distance in a S.W. direction, it takes a N.W. course, just to the E. of some cottages, until it approaches a Calvinistic Methodist Chapel. To the N.W. of the chapel it reappears between the edifice and the road, as well as on the other side of the road behind a cottage. From this point it can be detected for some little distance heading northwards. In the Vicarage grounds all vestiges of it are gone. A few yards from the point where it starts in Erw-y-Gaer the rampart has recently (1927) been pierced and a roadway made to two new houses that have been built in the field near Bryn-y-Gaer Road.

Visited Ap. 29, 1918, and March 9, 1927.

[*Inventory No. 32, p. 17.*]

BRYN EGLWYS.

TUMULI: TYMAWR.

I.

SITE. One of these stands a little over a mile to the N.E. of the village of Bryn Eglwys, in a field called Rhos Ganol, belonging to Tymawr farm. The field is immediately to the S.E. of the road to Llandegla, opposite the junction with the said road of the lane that passes Deio Uchaf. The tumulus is about 80 yds. from the road.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, S.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 1' 29.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 15' 1.5''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This is 90 paces in circumference and 3 ft. in height. It is composed of soil and covered with turf. Elevation : above contour line 800.

II.

This stands in the next field, to the W., called Rhos Pant-y-maen, about 20 yds. from the E. hedge and 50 yds. from the road. It is over 100 paces in circumference and about $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height.

III.

This is in the same field as No. II, about 40 yds. to the s.e. The hedge between the two fields passes over its e. fringe. Its diameter (over all) is about 30 paces, and its height about 3 ft.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. See extract from a letter written by J. Lloyd, of Ruthin, to Ed. Lhuyd (1693) on p. 57.

Seen Sept. 16, 1919, and May 4, 1926.

TUMULI: RHOS LYDAN.

SITE. These, which are two in number, are situated in a field called Bryn Mawr, which lies immediately to the s. of the farmhouse, a road intervening. Rhos Lydan, the owner of which is Mr. E. Beech Roberts, lies 2 m. to the n.e. of Bryn Eglwys Church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, s.w. : lat, $53^{\circ} 2' 11''$; long. $3^{\circ} 15' 4''$ (No. 1).]

DESCRIPTION. 1. The westernmost of the two tumuli, which lie roughly w. and e., is about 85 paces in circumference, and about $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. It is composed in the main of gravelly soil and covered with turf. On the s.e. slope of the tumulus, about 4 yds. from the summit, three stones are exposed, one of which protrudes to a considerable extent. It is just possible that this mound is natural.

2. The second is about 65 paces to the e. Its measurements are :—Circumference, 80 paces, and height about 3 ft. This likewise is composed of gravelly soil, which is not that of the field, and is turf-covered. Both are undisturbed and stand above contour line 1,000.

Visited June 27, 1921, and March 30, 1925.

TUMULUS AND MAENHIR: PANT-Y-MAEN.

SITE. These stand about a mile to the n.e. of the village of Bryn Eglwys, in the w. hedge of the lane that passes an old cottage called after the stone, Pant-y-maen (The Hollow of the Stone), 20 yds. or so to the s.w. of the cottage.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiv, n.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 1' 13''$; long. $3^{\circ} 15' 17''$.]

DESCRIPTION. *Tumulus*. When the lane mentioned above was made the s.e. slope of the tumulus was cut away and the central portion incorporated in the hedge, the remainder, about half, being left more or less intact in the field to the w., called Rhosydd, and belonging to Tyncelyn farm. The diameter of the tumulus, in the field close to the hedge, is 23 paces and the height of the portion incorporated in the hedge 4 or 5 ft. Elevation : above contour line 800.

Stone. The stone, which stands erect on the top of the part of the tumulus incorporated in the hedge, but not in the centre, measures 5 ft. 4 in. in height, 1 ft. in breadth, and 6 in. in thickness. There is no inscription or other mark on it. At present it is surrounded and practically hidden by the trees that grow on the spot.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES. 1. In the *Parochialia* (Ed. Lhuyd, 1699), pt. i, p. 121, under Bryn Eglwys, we read : " Mae maen hir mewn lhê a elwir Rhos yr hirvaen " (There is a maenhir in a place called the

Moor of the long stone). The name "Rhos-yr-hirvaen" is now unknown, but "Rhos" is an element in several of the farm and field names in the immediate vicinity, e.g. Tyn-y-rhos, Plas-yn-rhos, Rhos Pant-y-maen, Rhos Ganol, Rhosydd.

2. The following reference to the tumulus and maenhir occurs in a letter written by John Lloyd, Headmaster of Ruthin School, to Ed. Lhuyd (*see the Ashmole MSS. of Edward Lhuyd, which are preserved in the Bodleian Library, Oxford, vol. 1816, i.e. the third of the series, fol. 232*): "Dec. 22 [1693]. I lodged last night at a fr[ien]d's house near Bryn Eglwys. . . . In y^e bottom on Rhos hirfaen they shewed me 3 or 4 small tumuli above an arrow shot from one another, on one of them was a long stone set on end, w[hi]ch gave y^e name of Rhos yr hirfaen to y^t comon. They told me there were 6 such tumuli on y^t comon but I saw these. I met with a c^rcle of huge stones erected in a circle . . . whose area was 10 yds over. And another like a cock-pit where stones had been erected about it, and it was but lately a neighbour removed y^m to make a lime kiln. Both on Ros 'r hirfaen."

In the *Inventory of Denbighshire Ancient Monuments* (1914), No. 60A, p. 19, it is stated that "nothing could be gleaned after careful enquiry" of this and other sites mentioned in the *Parochialia* under Bryn Eglwys.

TRADITION. The maenhir is locally said to mark the grave of a giant or soldier who was killed in a great battle fought in the adjoining field.

REMOVAL OF STONE. In the sixties of the last century a person of the name Edward Roberts, of Penybedw ($\frac{1}{2}$ m. or so away), moved the stone, without consulting any one, in order to utilise it as a gate post. But owing to the fact that he had no peace of mind and could not sleep, he restored it to its original position. Another report is that he could not make the stone stand up in its new position, do what he would! Shortly afterwards Enoch Morris, who lived at Pant-y-maen, a son of the Hugh and Elizabeth whose names are cut in a stone above the front door of the house with the date 1838, planted a yew tree on either side of the stone and made a hedgerow around it, which he carefully kept in order. Now the spot is overgrown and the stone almost concealed from view.

AUTHORITY. Many of the particulars given above, including the story of the removal of the stone, were obtained from Mr. E. W. J. Roberts, of Coed Ial, Glyndyfrdwy, formerly of Ty Newydd, Bryn-eglwys, who consulted several of the oldest inhabitants of the place respecting the history of the stone expressly for the writer.

Site visited Sept. 16, 1919, and Sept. 30, 1926.

BRYN YR ORSEDD.

NAME. The name Bryn yr Orsedd, which is borne by a farm about a mile to the N.E. of Bryn Eglwys village, suggests the presence of a tumulus ("gorsedd"), but no trace of one can now be found. Immediately to the S. of the house is a field called "Orsedd Bach," and adjoining it, to the N.W., but belonging to Tyn Rhos farm, is

another, called "Orsedd Fawr." In the former, which is on the slope, there is a natural promontory, and in the latter a good sized natural hillock, but no signs of an artificial structure are noticeable in either.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. In a letter dated Dec. 22, 1693, the Rev. John Lloyd, of Ruthin, thus refers to Bryn yr Orsedd: "I lodged last night at a frd's house near Bryn Eglwys. . . . Looking over this Rhos [Rhos yr Hirfaen], not quarter of a m[ile] off they showed me Bryn'rorsedd, where either a natural or artificial mount is to be seen" (*Ashmole MSS.* at the Bodleian Library, Oxford, Vol. 1816, fol. 232).

Visited July 11, 1922.

ALLEGED CAMP: CHURCHYARD.

Pennant (*Tours*, vol. ii, p. 193) states that Bryn Eglwys Church seemed to have been placed in the area of a camp. The present writer has visited the spot thrice (Nov. 19, 1918, Sept. 16, 1919, and July 11, 1922), and the only thing suggesting a camp which he noticed was the somewhat rampart-like appearance of the western hedge or boundary-bank of the churchyard. The latter was originally circular, and on the N.E. side it is raised considerably about the adjacent land.

LEAF-SHAPED SWORD.

In a long letter from J[ohn] Lh[oyd] to Edward Lhuyd, beginning on Dec. 19, 1693, and continued on various days, appears, in the portion dated Dec. 22, the following reference to the sword:—"I lodg'd last night at a frd's [=friend's] house near Bryn Eglwys, who shew'd me y^e blade of a brass weapon found in y^e cleft of a rock.



FIG 13—OUTLINE OF LEAF-SHAPED SWORD.

In all abt 2 foot long, y^e handle 4 inches and a half, two edged" [*Ashmole MS*, No. 1816, fol. 233, vol. iii of E. Lhuyd's Correspondence: Bodleian.] The part of the letter dated Dec. 20 is headed "Castell Rhydwydd," which is in Llandegla Parish. Possibly the "house near Bryn Eglwys" was Plas yn Iâl, the owner of which a few years later (1698-9) was David Yale (a minor) (*Parochialia*, i, p. 121). A sketch of the sword is given by J. Lloyd, which is here reproduced.

SPINDLE WHORLS: BRYN YR ORSEDD.

These were discovered by Mr. Robert Jones, of Bryn yr Orsedd farm, one in the spring of 1925, and two or three in previous years, in Ffridd Big, the third field to the w. (600 yds.) of Bryn yr Orsedd farmhouse.

Only that found in 1925 is preserved. Its dimensions are : diameter, $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. ; thickness, $\frac{3}{8}$ in. The hole is oval. The whorl has been chipped in several places.

Mr. Jones has deposited the whorl in the vestry of Bryn Eglwys Church for preservation.

First seen June 20, 1925.

BURTON.

SPINDLE WHORL : YEW TREE FARM.

This was picked up in 1926 by Mr. Thomas, of Acton, while ploughing a field belonging to Yew Tree farm, which is between $1\frac{1}{4}$ and $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.N.E. of Gresford Church. It is about $1\frac{3}{4}$ in. across, and about $\frac{1}{4}$ in. thick. The perforation is splayed on either side, and the outside edges of the whorl are rounded. It was presented to the Wrexham Library Museum in 1927.

Seen June 18, 1928.

BYLCHAU.

TUMULI : NEAR THE CHURCH.

I.

SITE. One stands a few yards from the main road from Denbigh to Pentrevoelas in the field immediately to the s. of Bylchau Church. The field bears the name of Ffridd y Llyn, and belongs to the farm of Hafod Dafydd.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xiii, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 9' 13''$; long. $3^{\circ} 31' 53''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This tumulus is about 70 paces in circumference at the base, and about 5 ft. high. It is covered with turf and has not been disturbed. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

II.

The second is in the same field 70 yds. or so to the s.e. of No. 1.

This is a little larger than the other and measures about 80 paces in circumference and 7 ft. in height. This is likewise turf-covered and undisturbed.

III.

A third is in a small field called Y Rofft, which belongs to Jocelyn Cottage (the Post Office), about 70 yds. to the w. of the church.

This tumulus is about 70 paces in circumference and 4 ft. in height. A road, which branches off in a westerly direction opposite the church, passes over the northern slope of the mound.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. The late Ven. Archdeacon D. R. Thomas in his *History of the Diocese of St. Asaph* (vol. ii, p. 32, 1911) writes under Henllan : " ' Hen Fynwent,' i.e. the old cemetery, near Bylchau, is supposed to have been the burial place of those slain in battle in some of the many engagements that marked the struggle between the Welsh and English ; and in the field lying between Hen Fynwent and the new church are some tumuli that indicate a burial ground of the still earlier people."

Seen June 7, 1922.

REMAINS ON MOEL TYWYSOG.

SITE. Moel Tywysog is a heather-covered hill, 1,250 ft. above Ordnance datum, $1\frac{3}{4}$ m. N.N.E. of Bylchau Church, and $2\frac{3}{4}$ m. s.w. of Henllan village.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xiii, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 10' 45''$; long. $3^{\circ} 31' 9''$ (approx.).]

DESCRIPTION OF REMAINS. On this hill there are several ditches and hollows which are evidently artificial.

(1) One ditch runs roughly E. and W. for 35 paces just under the summit of the hill on the N. side. (2) Another is to be seen some 18 paces lower down the same slope. This is 98 paces in length. (3) A third is 52 paces lower still, and measures in length 58 paces. (4) A fourth has a length of 60 paces and is 98 paces lower than No. 3, that is, some 170 paces from the summit. All the *ditches* wind to some extent and are at present not deeper than 2 ft. The *hollows*, of which there are several, are roughly circular, and vary in size.

PURPOSE. It is difficult to say for what purpose these ditches and hollows were made. One might diffidently suggest that the object was to catch rain water for cattle, etc. They do not seem to possess any archaeological significance.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. In the *Parochialia* (part i, p. 104), under the parish of Henllan, appears the following entry:—"Mae rhiw hên Glawdh ar ben Moel Dywysog" (There is an old Clawdd on the top of Moel Tywysog). "Clawdd" is literally "a digging, a dyke."

Inspected Sept. 15, 1922.

BRONZE PALSTAVE : EREIVIAT.



FIG. 14—PALSTAVE FROM EREIVIAT.

DISCOVERY. This was found in 1830 in a field known as Bryn or Cae y Wrach, which lies on the Denbigh side of the drive leading from the lodge on the Pentrevoelas Road to Ereiviat. The field in question has in it a hill—hence the name Bryn y Wrach—the summit of which is about 110 paces from the drive referred to.

DESCRIPTION. The dimensions of the palstave are : length, 7 in. ; breadth across the edge, $2\frac{3}{4}$ in. ; across the centre, $\frac{7}{8}$ in. The flanges, which are somewhat shallow, are continued beyond the stop-ridge and curved inwards so as to meet, forming a shield-shaped ornament. The end of the tang is a little damaged.

PRESENT LOCATION. The implement, which was in the possession of Miss Jocelyn Ffoulkes, Liverpool Street, Chester, a niece of the well-known antiquary, the late Judge Wynne Ffoulkes, of Ereiviat, was presented by her in Sept., 1928, to the St. Asaph Cathedral Library.

Seen in 1915.

CEFN.

OSSIFEROUS CAVE: Y BONT NEWYDD.

POSITION. The cave known by the above name is on the right-hand side of the road leading from Plas-yn-Cefn to Bont Newydd, about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. from the former place.

[6 in. O.S. sheet viii, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 13' 37''$; long. $3^{\circ} 28' 31''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The entrance into the cave is in the face of a perpendicular limestone rock on the top of a bank, some 25 or 30 ft. above the road. The opening is large outside—about 10 ft. across by 6 or 7 ft. high, but contracts as one enters the cave. The passage penetrates at least 22 paces into the rock.

EXPLORATION. 1. The cave was first explored in 1872 or thereabouts by Prof. W. Boyd Dawkins, Mrs. Williams Wynn, and the Rev. D. R. Thomas (then Rector of Cefn), with the result that remains of the same group of animals as were found in the Plas yn Cefn cave were discovered “embedded in a stiff clay, consisting of rearranged boulder clay, and in the condition of waterworn pebbles.” From it Prof. Dawkins identified the brown, grizzly, and cave bear.

2. “A further examination by the Rev. D. R. Thomas and Prof. [T. McKenny] Hughes [of Cambridge] . . . resulted in the discovery of rude implements of flintstone, and a tooth which has been identified by Prof. Busk as a human molar of unusual size” (*Cave Hunting*, W. B. Dawkins, 1874, pp. 286-7).

AGE OF DEPOSITS. In his book, entitled *Early Man in Britain* (1880), Prof. W. Boyd Dawkins states (p. 192) that traces of Palaeolithic man have “been met with in several caverns in Wales, such as those of Pembrokeshire and Monmouthshire in the south, and in that of Pont Newydd, near St. Asaph, in N. Wales. In the latter a human molar tooth has been found, as well as quartzite implements, and rude splinters and chips of quartzite, of the same type as those of the red sand in the caves of Cresswell. The pebbles of which these are made have been obtained from the glacial deposits in the neighbourhood. We may therefore conclude with Prof. Hughes that the Palaeolithic hunter was here after the district was forsaken by the glaciers and the sea, or, in other words, in post-glacial times. . . . It must also be remarked that the leptorhine, rhinoceros and the hippopotamus, as well as the straight-tusked elephant (*Elephas Antiquus*), bear, bison, reindeer, and horse, are found with the quartzite implements in the Pont Newydd cave, which may therefore be classified with those of Yorkshire and the lower strata in Mother Grundy’s Parlour.”

Visited in 1915.

[*Inventory*, No. 82, p. 26.]

OSSIFEROUS CAVE : PLAS YN CEFN.

SITE. This well-known cave is situated in the grounds of Plas yn Cefn, the residence of Mrs. Williams Wynn (died Jan. 23, 1926), and the property of her son, Col. R. W. Williams Wynn, about a third of the way down an almost vertical limestone rock, 250 ft. or so high, facing s.w. and overlooking the River Elwy. Distance from St. Asaph, 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ m.

[6 in. O.S. sheet viii, N.W. : lat. 53° 13' 19" ; long. 3° 27' 59".]

DESCRIPTION. The cave is a tunnel-like formation in the rock, 6 ft. wide and 13 ft. high at the entrance. It penetrates about 50 yds. into the cliff. 30 yds. or thereabouts from the entrance the cave branches into two tunnels, which join further on, forming a loop. From the junction a narrow passage, about 40 paces in length, leads up an incline into another entrance, which is now blocked up. About midway between the latter and the main entrance another passage leads to a third exit, which is likewise blocked.

DISCOVERY. From the fact that Leland, in his *Itinerary* (1536-9),* refers to a "great cave" on the bank of the Elwy 3 or 4 m. above St. Asaph, it has been assumed, as, for instance, by the Commissioners on Ancient Monuments (*Denbighshire Inventory*, p. 26), that the cave described above was "well known during the middle ages." But as pointed out by the Rev. (afterwards, Archdeacon) D. R. Thomas as far back as 1872 in *Arch. Camb.* for that year (p. 160), and by the Rev. (now, Chancellor) J. Fisher, in the *Rhyl Journal* (July 10, 1915), Leland's reference is not to the cave now under consideration, but to the natural arch (with a cave inside) through which formerly the road from Denbigh towards Kinnel passed. It was from this opening that the Cefn rock received its name of "Carreg y Tyllfaen" (The Rock of the Hole Stone), cf. *Parochialia* (i, 47) : "Mae Ogo Vawr yn y Wicwer a gelwir Karreg y Tylhvaen" (There is a large cave in Gwigfair [township] called Carreg y Tyllfaen).

The Ossiferous Cave was discovered in 1830 by the Rev. Edward Stanley, afterwards Bishop of Norwich, an eminent geologist. Writing in *The Edinburgh New Philosophical Journal* for January, 1833 (vol. 14, p. 40)†, Stanley thus describes the old Cefn cave and the discovery of the new :

Old Cave. "In the month of February last [1830] . . . I was induced by some friends . . . to visit a perforated rock named Cefn Cave, through which the road passes at a little distance above the bed of the river Elwy. This perforated rock is clearly a natural production, though possibly art may have assisted to render the passage more commodious. Beyond its picturesque beauty, it has however no particular claims to attention, except, indeed, that at various times in exploring some lateral ramifications and opening into

* Leland's words are : "On the farther ripe of Elwy a 3 or 4 miles above S. Asaphes is a stony rok caullid Kereg the tylluaine, i.e. the rock with hole stones, wher a great cave is, having divers romes in it hewid out of the mayne rok." *Itin.* p. 99 (Lucy Toulmin Smith's ed., 1906).

† "Memoir on a Cave at Cefn in Denbighshire visited by Rev. Edward Stanley, F.G.S., F.L.S., etc. Read before the Geological Society of London, 30th May, 1830."

the interior parts of the perforation, human as well as animal bones, together with *stags' horns*, and, I believe, some remains of ancient weapons, have been found. That they were of considerable antiquity is not improbable, but there is nothing surprising in their position. That the stags' horns at least belonged to deer coeval with man was evident by the frequent marks of filing, cutting or sawing apparent on the greater portion: and it will be obvious to any person visiting the place, that a more eligible retreat, a better for shelter or ambuscade in times of feuds or warfare, could not have been selected where travellers or foes might have been way laid. Indeed, if it is not an accidental mark of a pick axe, a small hole through a skull I saw there would sufficiently explain the cause why its unfortunate owner should have laid his head for ever in so strange a place."

New Cave. "It was on returning from this lower cave I accidentally heard that the owner of the property, Edward Lloyd, Esq., of Cefn, in the recent formation of some walks by cutting away projecting points of the cliff, and smoothing the irregular surface of the ledges, had removed a quantity of soil from a spacious opening in front of which his improvements were carrying on, and that in this soil, used with the best effect for manuring the meadows below ["Dol Pant yr Onnen," so the writer was told locally], some bones had also been found. . . . I returned on the morrow, and decided the question" [whether it was a counterpart of the Kirkdale (bone) cave] "in a few minutes by collecting, with no other instrument than a walking stick, a considerable number of bones embedded in alluvial soil, many of them probably of comparatively recent origin, but others, particularly a portion of an os humerus unquestionably of a *rhinoceros*, as decidedly antediluvian. . . . One remarkably fine upper molar tooth of a rhinoceros had attracted notice and been preserved by and is still in the possession of Mr. Lloyd. Previous to the facilities afforded by the present approaches it could not have been very easily accessible. . . . Till about two years ago none had penetrated beyond the porch or entrance. Indeed from all I could learn the existence of any cavern beyond it was not even suspected. . . . At the above mentioned time however the labourers employed in forming the walks on the face of the rock were directed to remove some of this soil: and it was soon apparent that it occupied the entire space of a continuous cave. . . . I again" [after two previous visits] "repaired to the cave on the 4th April; and, with the kind permission of Mr. Lloyd, spent the greater part of the day there with four men, two of whom I employed in digging and removing the soil, and two in sifting it, when wheeled into open day light, by which precaution I collected several teeth which would otherwise have been overlooked. One of my great objects was to ascertain the depth of the present flooring, which was evidently not the real bottom-level of the cave. . . . So hard was it that . . . I was unable to excavate in the whole more than about 3 or 4 feet, but I cannot say positively that even then the workmen had attained the actual floor." The remains—bones—found in the lower stratum "were all antediluvian and most of them belonging to the large animals."

The *finds* are thus described by Prof. Boyd Dawkins in *Cave Hunting* (p. 159) : " In the collection of fossil bones in the possession of Mrs. Williams Wynn, discovered in 1833 (?), in a cave at Cefn, by Mr. Edward Lloyd, is a human skull and lower jaw, along with platycnemic limb-bones. They were found mingled with the bones of goat, pig, fox, and badger, and cut antlers of the red-deer, inside the lower entrance of the cave, in which the extinct pleistocene animals were found in the valley of the Elwy. Four flint flakes also were discovered along with them. The skull in its general features strongly resembles those found in the group of caves at Perthi Chwareu, and presents a cephalic index of 77·0, which comes within the limits of the extreme forms from that locality."

In 1872 Prof. Boyd Dawkins himself examined the cave. This is how he describes the result in *Cave Hunting*, p. 286 : " In one portion I found . . . a deposit of comminuted bone with scarcely any mixture of loam, that rose in clouds of dust as it was disturbed. The animals belonged to the same class as those of Germany, the cave-bear, spotted hyaena, and reindeer, as well as hippopotamus, *elephas antiquus* and *rhinoceros hemitæchus* of the Kirkdale cave . . . "

The skull referred to above is preserved at Plas yn Cefn. A so the four flint flakes (1½, 2, 1½, 1½ in. long respectively).

Cave visited Ap., 1913, and subsequently.

[*Inventory*, No. 81, p. 25, Fenton's *Tours in Wales*, p. 147.]

LONG CAIRN AND CISTS : TYDDYN BLEIDDYN.

I.

DISCOVERY. The first of these sepulchral cists was discovered in 1869 by the Rev. D. R. Thomas, Rector of Cefn afterwards Archdeacon of Montgomery), in the ruins of a cairn which stood in a field called Tyddyn Bleiddyn, just to the E. of Ysgubor Newydd house, but belonging to Tanygraig farm.

[6 in. O.S. sheet viii, N.W. : lat. 53° 16' 23" ; long. 3° 29' 15".]

The Rector's attention was directed to the site on Jan. 23, 1869, when the tenant of Tanygraig, Robert Williams, grandfather of the present (1922) occupier, informed him of his having come across human bones in carting away stones from the cairn. On repairing to the spot he found that the bones had been extracted from a *cistfaen*, after one of the upright stones which formed its base had been broken. " The whole of the interior was filled up with fine sand, and capstones seemed to have been placed over the whole, but had been broken or removed." From the cairn hundreds of loads of stones (lime) had recently been carried away, and many more some years previously.

EXPLORATION. On Jan. 26, the Rev. D. R. Thomas, together with the Rev. (afterwards Canon) Robert Williams, of Rhydygroesau, began the exploration of the site by clearing away the loose stones from above and around the cist. Then, removing the sand near the base where the bones had first been found, they discovered several

skulls in a very fragmentary condition, but the teeth and bones wonderfully preserved. No implement of any description was discovered [See letter by D. R. Thomas in *Arch. Camb.*, 1869, p. 197].

At a subsequent date the exploration was resumed in the presence of Prof. W. Boyd Dawkins, and the cist or chamber referred to was fully cleared out.

DESCRIPTION OF GRAVE. This cist, which at its base (inside measured 5 ft., narrowed to about 2 ft. at the other (*i.e.* N.E.) end. The sides were 9 ft., and consisted of two and three slabs respectively.

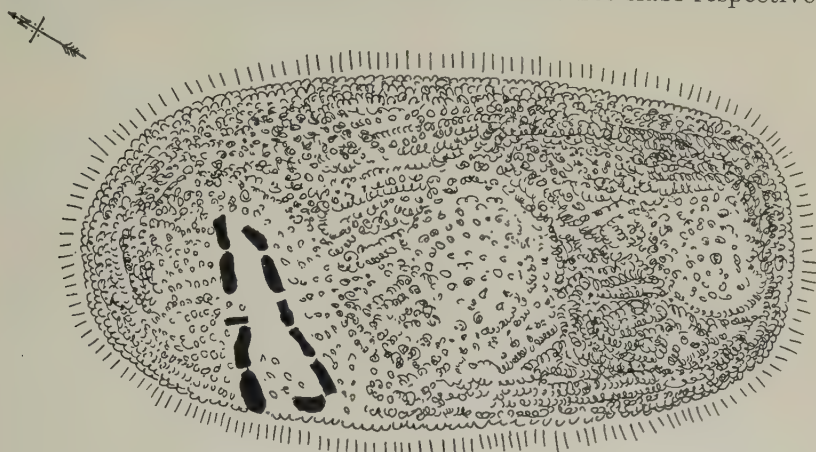


FIG. 15—PLAN OF TYDDYN BLEIDDYN LONG CAIRN.

Beyond the narrow end (N.E.) was a passage, 6 ft. long by 2 wide, the sides being composed of three stones apiece. The cist was partially insulated from the passage by a slab (18 in. high) which did not reach the height of the walls. The cap-stones, as already stated, had disappeared.

CONTENTS OF GRAVE. "In the passage as well as the chambers [cists] there were human bones belonging to individuals who had been buried in a crouching posture." Owing to the fact that some of the remains had been scattered it was impossible to ascertain the exact number of burials, but Prof. Boyd Dawkins, who restored one skull and examined seven frontal bones and other remains (not including those in the possession of the Rev. D. R. T.), concluded that at least 12 persons, varying in age from infancy to full prime, were buried in this tomb. All these, of course, could not have been interred at the same time in so small a space, but must have been deposited at different periods, unless indeed the bones were placed in the tomb after the flesh had disappeared. Remains of animals were absent, but a slightly chipped flint pebble was discovered. It may be added that Mr. W. J. Hemp, F.S.A., picked up a small flint flake close to the remains of the cairn on Ap. 11, 1923.

II.

DISCOVERY, ETC. In the same cairn the Rev. D. R. Thomas, in 1871, found a second and larger cist composed of cave slabs of limestone. This was soon afterwards completely excavated by Prof. W.

Boyd Dawkins, the Rev. H. H. Winwood, and the Rector. "It was of a rudely triangular form, 10 ft. long by 6 wide, traversed by a partition of slabs, and provided with a narrow passage 10 ft. long by 2 ft. 6 in. in width, opening to the north, and fenced off completely from the chamber by a slab, as in the preceding case."

FINDS. "Both the chamber and the passage were full of human remains of all ages buried in a contracted posture, the number of interments being far too great to allow the bodies to have been deposited at one time." From the cist Prof. Dawkins identified the broken jaw of a roebuck and remains of a goat, a broken flint and round pebbles of quartz, while in the passage there were the teeth and bones of the dog and pig.

CHARACTER OF HUMAN REMAINS. Some of the tibiae from both chambers were platycnemic, but that character was only to be recognised in the older bones. Platycnemism, or flattening of shin, is not to be regarded as peculiar to race, or as a tendency towards the simian type of leg, but "stood in relation to the free action of the foot that was not impeded by the use of a rigid sole or sandal." The bones found in this cairn, like those discovered in the Perthi-Chwarae and Cefn caves, implied that the men to whom they belonged were a short race averaging about 5 ft. in height. The skulls, which were orthognathic, *i.e.* having straight and not projecting jaws, were of fair average capacity. The face was oval and the cheek-bones were not prominent.

PRESENT CONDITION OF CAIRN. There still remains of the cairn a patch of small stones, overgrown with brambles, etc., a few feet high, lying N.W. and S.E., and measuring about 22 by 11 paces. The ends are rounded. At the western, that is, the Ysgubor Newydd, end of the cairn, 11 of the stones of the first cist are still *in situ*, but some of them slightly moved. Where exactly the other cist stood is not known, but there is a large hollow in the centre of the cairn and another smaller at the E. end. The ground on which the cairn stands slopes slightly. An ash tree and plum sapling which grew in the chamber that is left *in situ* were cut, but not destroyed, in the winter of 1923.

RELICS. The bones found in the chambers were removed to Plas yn Cefn, but owing to the fact that the maid-servants were afraid of sleeping under the same roof they were buried in the churchyard by the Rector, the Rev. D. R. Thomas. Two skulls were retained and are still preserved at the Hall.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. May this cairn be the grave of Llemenig, mentioned in the "Stanzas of the Graves of the Soldiers of the Isle of Britain"? See "The Black Book of Carmarthen" (ed. J. Gwengogvryn Evans, 1906, p. 68; ed. Skene—"The Four Ancient Books of Wales," 1868, ii, p. 33):—

Bet silit dŷwal inedrŷwuŷle.
Bet llemenig in llan elvŷ.
Ygguernin bre bet eilinvŷ.

"The grave of Llemenig in Llanelwy." The Parish of Cefn was formed out of that of St. Asaph (Llanelwy) in 1865.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1869, p. 197; *Cave Hunting* (W. Boyd Dawkins), 1874, pp. 161-4; *Inventory*, No. 75, p. 22.]

Visited Ap. 1913, and several times subsequently.

CAMP: BEDD Y CAWR.

SITE. The so-called Bedd y Cawr (The Giant's Grave) stands about $\frac{3}{4}$ m. N.W. of Cefn Church, on the S.E. portion of a limestone ridge bearing the name (in the Ordnance maps) of Cefn Meiriadog. Locally the part on which the "grave" is situated is known as "Bryn" or "Bryn Cefn Farm," i.e. the Hill of Cefn Farm (formerly called Tudraw i'r Cefn and Perthi Llwydion), which lies immediately to the E.

[6 in. O.S. sheet viii, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 14' 10''$; long. $3^{\circ} 28' 45''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The object to which the name Bedd y Cawr is given is an artificial bank composed mainly of small stones which lies across the ridge W. and E., and has somewhat of the appearance of a huge grave. It measures in length about 36 paces, and in height, that is from the base to the summit, 9 to 12 paces on the N. side, and about 7 on the S. side. The bank, however, is continued, though much reduced, for some distance, first eastwards, and then in a southerly direction, until it merges in a modern wall.

PURPOSE. It has been maintained that this bank formed part of the defences—now incomplete—of an ancient camp which crowned the S.E. portion of the ridge, the other sides being naturally protected by rocky escarpments. It is possible, of course, that the defences were never finished. The site commands an extensive outlook on all sides except the N.W., on which side it is dominated by higher ground. The entrance would be at the S.E. corner, where access to the hill is still gained. The old Ordnance Survey map, it may be noted, shows a complete camp.

EXCAVATION. About the year 1875 Mrs. Williams Wynn, of Plas yn Cefn, had two trenches cut across the path on the level ground just behind (i.e. N.W. side of) the Clawdd, but nothing was discovered.

FOLKLORE. Local tradition says that the Giant here interred, known as Cawr Meriadog, lived at Plas Newydd, a large sixteenth century house half a mile or so to the N.W. of the "Bedd." In the house the peg on which the giant used to hang his hat was formerly shown in the panelled oak screen which divided the room to the left of the front door from the kitchen. The nail was about 3 yds. from the ground.

In 1912 or thereabout, there being a change of tenants, the landlord, Col. H. B. L. Hughes, of Kinnel Park, had the oak screen removed. Afterwards it was offered for sale in Chester, and eventually (Oct., 1915) bought from a dealer for the Welsh National Museum,

Cardiff. The screen contains this inscription: ANNO DOMINI 1583 ET AETATIS MEI FULCONIS AP ROB. 43. G.H. (i.e. Grace Holland wife of Ffoulk ap Robert), DEUM TIME [*Records of Denbigh* (Williams), p. 215].

Site visited in 1914 and subsequently.

[*Inventory*, No. 76, p. 23.]

ERECT STONES: TANYGRAIG.

SITE. These stand in a field some 150 yds. to the S.E. of Tanygraig farmstead, close to the road that skirts the field on the S., and 55 paces from the S.E. corner.

[6 in. O.S. sheet viii, N.W. : lat. 53° 14' 7" ; long. 3° 28' 52".]

DESCRIPTION. The erect stones under consideration form two sides of what may have been originally a quadrilateral structure, the other two sides of which having possibly been destroyed when the road, on which the existing sides abut, was made. There are about four big stones, placed close together two on each side, measuring from 2 ft. to 4 ft. in height, besides smaller ones.

Seen June 16, 1925, and Jan. 25, 1926.

BRONZE CELTS.

There are preserved at Plas-yn-Cefn, together with other relics, e.g. skulls, etc., found in the caves and Tyddyn Bleiddyn Cairn, two bronze socketed celts measuring about 5 in. long, having loops, and three ribs on either side.

These were discovered many years ago, so the late Mrs. Williams Wynn informed the writer, August 9, 1921, on the surface of a rock in the Parish of Cefn, possibly when one of the many paths or walks constructed by her father, Mr. Edward Lloyd, was being made, but nothing certain is known of their history.

SPINDLE WHORLS: CARREG DAFYDD.

These were discovered by Miss Violet Smith, of Carreg Dafydd, one in 1919 and the other later, in the wood behind Carreg Dafydd house, which is about 1¼ m. N.W. of the parish church.

The whorls were given to Chancellor Fisher, Rector of Cefn, who has deposited them in a show case in the Chapter House of St. Asaph Cathedral.

Seen Aug. 9, 1921, and subsequently.

CERRIG Y DRUDION.

NAME OF THE PARISH.

The meaning now generally given to this name is "Stones of the Daring ones," or "of the Heroes."* Formerly *drudion* was taken to signify "Druids," as for example by Camden and Edward Lhuyd, and was frequently written Druidion (e.g. by Pennant). The first

* See *Drud* in Silvan Evans's *Welsh-Eng. Dict.* It means also "a fool" or "mad person."

apparently to point out that the name has nothing to do with Druids is the writer on Cerrig-y-drudion in Lewis's *Topographical Dictionary*.*

The name is old and appears (spelt Kerricedrudeon) in Llewelyn ap Gruffydd's Charter to the monks of Aberconway (1198). In the *Norwich Taxatio* (1254) it is Keric-drudion, and in the *Lincoln Taxatio* (1291) Kerrye Edrudion. In the *Valor* of Henry VIII (1535) it is written Kayricdredion. Leland (1536-9) gives it as Kereg Edridion (ed. L. T. Smith, 1906, p. 94). According to the late Archdeacon Thomas (*History of the Diocese of St. Asaph*, II, p. 139) "all the earlier parochial records call" the place "Kaer-y-druidion." A little further on the Archdeacon writes: "An early MS. note in the Parish Register states that 'Evan ap Llewelyn of Kinmeirch surnamed 'Gwas Patrige,' or, as written by his picture in the east window of Caerydrudion, written 1504, Evans Patricius Animarum Confessor, was the first founder of 'the Church of Caerydrudion, the year of Our Lord 440 and dedicated it to Mary Magdalen.'" The same extract is given in Lhuyd's *Parochialia* i, p. 116: "Ex Reg [ist]ro eccl'ie de Kerrig y Drydion, Ievan ap Lhewelch of Kinmeirch surnamed Gwas Patrick as written by his picture at ye east end of Kaer y Drydion written A° 1504 Evans Patricius animarum confessor was ye 1st founder of ye Ch: of K. y Druidion in ye year of our Lord 440 and dedicated it to M: Magdalen." In the *Buched* [life of] *Ievan Gwas Badric* (Llanstephan MS. 34 [end of 16th cent.] p. 306) the form of the name is Kerrig-y-drydion (*Lives of the British Saints* by Gould and Fisher, vol. iv., p. 426).

The name *Caer-y-druidion*, so given probably in allusion to the Caer—Caer Caradog—on a hill about a mile S.E. of the church, but in the Parish of Llanfihangel Glyn Myfyr, seems to have been originally a conceit of a late fifteenth or early sixteenth century person, probably a rector. The right name undoubtedly is Cerrig-y-drudion.

SITE OF STONES. No stones, to which the name "Stones of the Daring Ones" is applicable, now exist in the parish, and there is the greatest uncertainty as to where they stood when they existed and what their character was.

Leland, the earliest of our topographical writers (1506-52), refers to the place but makes no mention of the stones. His words are: "Loke wither Lanvair Vadelen be not in Kinemarth. This paroche is caullid in Walsch Kereg Edridion. . . . Lanvair Vade [len] is much baren [but] for otes withe [great] labor. No wood but turfe. Ful of hilles and bogges."

All Camden, in his *Britannia* (ed. 1600, p. 599 [1st ed. 1586]), says is: "Inter hos montes locus est vulgo dictus Cerig-y-Drudion, id est, *Lapides Druydarum*" ["Among these hills there is a place commonly called *Cerig-y-Drudion*, that is, The Stones of the Druids."—Holland's English ed., 1610, p. 675.]

The Rev. Griffith Jones, M.A., Head Master of Llanrwst Grammar School and Vicar of Llanrwst from 1702 to 1709, in a letter dated, "Llanrwst, Jan. 27, 1693," and addressed to

* "The name of the place signifies the stones of the daring ones, and not of the Druids as some have interpreted it."

Edward Lhuyd [*Ashmole MSS.* at the Bodleian, vol. 1815, fol. 247], writes : “ I’ve discoursed y^e Rector of Cerrig y Drudion ab^t y^e etymologie of y^t place who sd it was y^e com^{on} received opinion there and elsewhere, y^t they were denominated from y^e Druids. . . . Of y^e stones ascribed to y^m I could get no certain information. . . . Griffith Jones.”

Edward Lhuyd, in his annotations contributed to Bishop Gibson’s edition of Camden’s *Britannia* (1695, p. 682 : 1st ed. 1694), writes : “ What stones they were that have been thus called is a question I could not be thoroughly satisfied in, though I have made some inquiry. The most remarkable stone monuments now remaining in this parish are two Kistieu maen or Stone Chests. These I have not seen, but find the following account of them from an ingenious gentleman in this neighbourhood ” [Rector Robert Wynne, 1660–1697, in all probability. See *Sepulchral Chambers* (Hafod-y-Maidd)]. These *Kistieu*, as we see from Lhuyd’s *Parochialia* (pt. i, p. 113), were near Hafod-y-maidd, about 2½ m. N.W. of the Church of Cerrig-y-drudion : “ Cerrig-y-drudion a gavas i enw hyd yr ydys i vedhwl odhiwrth y Drydion [ne’r Derwydhon] y rhain oedhynt yn aberthy ag yn adholi gau Dhuwiau Kyn amser Kristianogaeth yn y plwy ymma. Mae dwy Demmel iw gweled etto ar dir havod y maydh, ag yn o honynt a elwir Karchar Kynrig Rwth ” [“ Cerrig-y-drudion derived its name from the Drydion [or Derwyddon=Druids] who sacrificed to, and worshipped false gods before the time of Christianity in this parish. Two temples are still to be seen on the land of Hafod-y-maidd, and one of them is called Kynrig Rwth’s prison ”].

Thomas Pennant, in 1780, paid a visit, in the course of his tours through North Wales, to Cerrig-y-drudion in the hope of seeing the Druidical remains which gave name to the place. “ After a dreary ride [from Bala],” so he writes (*Tours* ii, p. 211), “ I found myself disappointed ; these sacred reliques having been profanely carried away, and converted into a wall.” He then proceeds to give a description of the remains, based on Lhuyd’s annotations on Camden, and drawings preserved by him among the Sebright MSS. [see p. 74.]

But were the Hafod-y-maidd *cists* the stones which gave Cerrig-y-drudion its name ? The theory is not free from difficulties. For first of all the *cists* in question were a long way (that is, 2½ m.) from the village. Again, it may be doubted whether these *cists* were exposed to view when the parish or locality acquired its name of Cerrig-y-drudion. Furthermore, the Hafod-y-maidd remains were scarcely imposing enough to warrant the designation, “ Stones of the Daring Ones.” The name seems to postulate a group of stones of large dimensions. But no such stones, as has already been said, exist at present. There was formerly, however, a tradition to the effect that a large pile of stones stood at one time on the rising ground in the field immediately to the W. of the churchyard. This is preserved, for instance, in a little Welsh book, entitled *Tro trwy’r Gogledd* (1888), by the late Sir O. M. Edwards. Cerrig-y-drudion, he writes, “ is a small village on a bare hillock. Fifty years ago [that is, about 1830] some remembered a heap of stones near the Church—

graves of old *drudion* or heroes—and from them the village and some 20,000 acres of moorland surrounded by mountain, took its name” [translated]. He received the tradition from the late Mr. Hugh Hughes, the village schoolmaster.

Testimony is borne to the same tradition in an earlier document, viz. a letter written by Mr. W. Price, of Rhiwlas, near Bala, to the Rev. Mr. Littleton, Oxford, and dated 1st March, 1744–5. [See Edward Owen’s *Catalogue of MSS. relating to Wales in the British Museum*, pt. iv, p. 839 (1922).] Mr. Price writes: “The Stones at Cerrig-y-Druidion have been I dare say scatter’d many an age ago, and it must be a very skillful cicerone that can set y^m together, better then [*sic*] any one in these parts; they are not very far from ye church of ye place.”

To the same effect writes the contributor of the article on Cerrig-y-druidion in Lewis’s *Topographical Dictionary*: “The name of this place . . . is in allusion to a vast heap of stones, which several persons now alive remember to have been on the west side of the Church, and minutely described in Bishop Gibson’s additions to Camden’s *Britannia* by Mr. Llwyd, but now entirely dispersed, etc.” The remains described by Lhuyd, however, were not, as has been pointed out above, in the village of Cerrig-y-druidion but near Hafod y Maidd, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. away. If there was a “great heap” of stones near the church the wonder is that Lhuyd’s correspondent did not mention the same to him. He cannot, however, have done so, for, as we have seen, Lhuyd states, in his annotations on Camden’s *Britannia*, that he could not be thoroughly satisfied, though he had made some inquiry, what stones they were to which the name Cerrig-y-druidion alluded. In the *Parochialia* no hint is given as to the existence of any extraordinary stones in the parish, barring the two *cists* at Hafod-y-maidd, and another “in the field at Tai Ucha, and which was fairly near the church” [“Yr oedh ynghae’r tai ŷcha drydydh a hon oedh yn o agos i’r Eglwys”] (see pt. i, p. 114).

DESTROYED SEPULCHRAL CHAMBERS: HAFOD-Y-MAIDD.

I.

SITE. One sepulchral chamber, or, to use the local name, “Cistfaen,” stood on slightly elevated ground, circular in outline, about three-fourths of the way up a field, still called Cae-y-gistfaen, which lies (the nearest part of it) 100 yds. or so to the N.N.E. of Tai-fry farmstead. This cistfaen bore the name of “Carchar Cynrig Rwth” (“The Prison of open-mouthed Cynrig”). The field formerly belonged to Tai-fry, which was then a separate farm. Now it forms part of the farm of Plas Hafod-y-maidd, owner: Major J. Wynne Finch, Voelas.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, S.E.: lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 54''$, long. $3^{\circ} 36' 23''$.]

DISMANTLEMENT. There is at present no trace of the cistfaen at the above mentioned spot, but some of the large flat stones which composed it are said to be embedded in the walls of the field. One

stone at all events forms the platform at the top of a flight of steps leading (outside) to a loft over an outbuilding at Tai-fry belonging to Hafod-y-maidd. It was placed there in the time of Ellis Lloyd, of Tai-fry, great grandfather of Ellis Hughes, an elderly man employed at Hafod-y-maidd (died 1926). This measures 48 by 37 by 3 in. Another was also removed to the yard of Tai-fry. The cist had been covered by a large *carnedd*. This, or what was left of it, was carried away, so the writer was informed by Mr. Hugh Roberts, of Plas Hafod-y-maidd, by his father, Cadwaladr Roberts, about the year 1866, the stones of the cist having been previously removed in the time of the already mentioned Ellis Lloyd, of Tai-fry, who died January, 1839, aged 64. Mr. Hugh Roberts remembers, as a young man, ploughing over the site which was one cluster of smallish stones. Since then the ground has been cleared.

TRADITIONS. 1. The writer was informed by Mr. Tom Owen, of the Alwen Waterworks, that there is a well-founded tradition to the effect that when the *cistfaen* was covered by a cairn a thresher used to go after his day's work to remove the stones—a few at a time to avoid suspicion—in order to get at the treasure—*cist yr aur*, i.e. gold-chest—which the *carnedd* was supposed to contain. One foggy day in the winter, however, some person forestalled the thresher and opened the cist, which was composed of six stones. What he discovered inside is not known, but we may be quite certain it was not gold!

2. Another tradition is that insane people used to be placed in this chamber by a person bearing the name of Cynrig Rwth, and confined therein until they came to their senses. Hence the name "Carchar [prison of] Cynrig Rwth." An old employee at Hafod-y-maidd (E. L. Hughes, died 1929) spoke of it as the "Asylum." This tradition is well known (*See below*).

II.

SITE. Another *cistfaen* stood on a slight rise of ground in the upper part of a field bearing the name of Ffridd-y-gistfaen, which is about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.N.W. of Hafod-y-maidd, and about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.N.E. of Tyn-y-waun, to which farm it belongs.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 56''$; long. $3^{\circ} 36' 50''$.]

DISMANTLEMENT. At present there is nothing to indicate the site, but at the N.W. corner of the field four stones, said to have formed part of the cist, and still called "Cerrig Cistfaen"—large flat slabs—are to be seen standing side by side in the wall. Two of them measure 40 by 55 in. and 60 by 50 in. respectively. There is a drilled hole in two of them showing that they were too heavy to move without blasting. Mr. Ellis Hughes, already referred to, informed the writer that his grandfather, Edward Lloyd, the last tenant of Tai-fry, told him years ago that the stones were removed from their places in the time of his father, Ellis Lloyd, who died in 1839, aged 64.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES. 1. Edward Lhuyd speaks of the above remains in the annotations he supplied to Bp. Edmund Gibson's edition of Camden's *Britannia* (1695) and in the *Parochialia* (circa 1699). In the former work he writes, p. 682: "The most remarkable

stone monuments now remaining in this parish (Cerrig-y-drudion) are two of that kind called Kistieu maen or Stone Chests. These I have not seen, but find the following account of them in a letter from an ingenious gentleman in this neighbourhood: "The most remarkable pieces of antiquity in this parish of Kerig y Drudion, are those two solitary prisons which are generally supposed to have been used in the time of the Druids; they are placed about a furlong from each other, and are such huts that each prison can well contain but a single person. One of them is distinguished by the name of Karchar Kynrik Rwth, or Kenric Rwth's prison; but who he was is altogether uncertain. The other is known by no particular title but that of Kistvaen or Stone Chest; which is common, and seems to be a name lately given them because they are somewhat of the form of large chests, from which they chiefly differ in their opening or entrance; they stand north and south, and are each of them composed of seven stones. Of these four, being above six feet long and about a yard in breadth, are so placed as to resemble the square tunnel of a chimney; a fifth, which is not so long, but of the same breadth, is pitched at the south end thereof, firmly to secure that passage. At the north end is the entrance, where the sixth stone is the lid and special guard of this close confinement. But, in regard it was necessary to remove it when any person was imprisoned or released, it is not of that weight as to be alone a sufficient guard of the prisoner, and therefore on the top-stone or uppermost of the four first mentioned, lies the seventh, that is a vast stone, which with much force was removed towards the north end, that, with its weight, it might fasten and, as it were, clasp the door-stone."

From a letter written by John Lloyd, Warden of Ruthin (1663–1713), to Edward Lhuyd, it appears that the "ingenious gentleman in this neighbourhood," mentioned in the foregoing passage was a "Mr. Wyn, of Cerig-y-drydion"—no doubt, Rector Robert Wynne, 1660–1697. Lloyd's words are: "Mr. Wyn . . . has written an account of our Fortifications to Sergeant Middleton. . . . We are told you have that paper— . . . it speaks of a Prison between great stones called Carchar Kynric Vawr or the like" (*Parochialia*, iii, 106, 107; cf. *Arch. Camb.*, 1851, p. 56).

Lhuyd's reference in the *Parochialia* (i, 113) is as follows:—"Kerrig Druidion a gavas i enw, hyd yr ydys yn i vedhwl odhiwrth y Drydion [ne'r Derwydhon] yrhain oedhynt yn Aberthy ag yn adholi gau Dhuwiau kyn amser Kristianogaeth yn y plwy ymma. Mae dwy Demmel iw gweled etto a'r dir havod y maydh, ag yn o honynt a elwir Karchar Kynrig Rŵth" (" . . . Two temples are still to be seen on Hafod-y-maidd land, and one of them is called the Prison of Kynrig Rŵth"). Lower down (p. 114) he states: "Kistvaen sydh ymhob yn" ("It is a Cistfaen that is in both").

2. In an unsigned letter dated May 23, 1696, and sent to Ed. Lhuyd [National Library of Wales (Aberystwyth) MS. 1565 c. (copied by Angharad Llwyd—*Kinnmel* MS. 65), p. 89] is the following reference:—"Lhwybr Elen wrth Garchar Cynric Rwth drwy'r

Henal (?) sef Buarth, o amgylch y tŷ, Tŷ y gist vaen sydh yn agor tuar gogledd, ag velly mae carchar Cynric Rŵth—buarth oi chylch, bymtheg llâthen ar draws o gerig sathedig, ei rhif nhw yw deg ar hugain, rhwng dwy a thair troedvedh o uchder, wrth y pen, sydd tu a'r gogledd, mae'r garreg sydh yn dhrws, cymhelled oddiwrth eneu pob cist; hyd oni eill dyn ymgrippio i'r gist" ("Llwybr Elen by Cynrig Rŵth's prison through the . . . which is an enclosure around the house. The Cistfaen's house opens towards the north, and so does Cynric Rŵth's prison—an enclosure around it, fifteen yards across, of worn [sathredig ?] stones. Their number is thirty, between 2 and 3 feet in height. At the end which is towards the north is the stone which serves as door—at such a distance from the mouth of each cist as to make it possible for a man to creep into the cist").

3. The Rev. George Griffiths, Rector of Llanycil, Bala, in a letter dated March 14, 1744–5, and addressed to the Rev. Mr Lyttleton, at Oxford (*Catalogue of the Welsh MSS. relating to Wales in the British Museum*, pt. iv, p. 839 [Ed. Owen, 1922] writes: "I enquired if any stone chests were found near [i.e. Caer Ddunod]; they answered they saw none there, but heard there were some taken up many years since, where I imagine is Carchar Kynrick Rŵth, but none of the inhabitants that I met with, tho' I sent for old people to my lodging, heard of any place called by that name. I proceeded to another place called Ty yn y Weun where was a circle, and near that was found a stone chest, which place to this day is called by the inhabitants Ffrydd y Gyst Vaen; this is about a mile [*recte* 3 m.] from the church."

4. Pennant, relying on the annotator of Camden, i.e. Edward Lhuyd (*Britannia*, vol. ii, 813) and the drawings preserved by him among the *Sebright MSS.*, "the sacred reliques having been profanely carried away and converted into a wall" before 1776, the year of his visit to Cerrig-y-drudion, gives the following description of the remains:—"The largest was a fine specimen of the *British Kist vaen*. It consisted of one stone at top, placed inclining to the north, and was, when measured by Mr. Lhuyd, ten feet long, supported by a stone on each side about 7 feet long, and near two and a half broad. Under one end was a stone, 3 ft. long: at the other, one of the length of two feet. The hollow beneath was only seven feet long, three and a half broad and only two and a half high; which sufficiently shews that these monuments had not been the cells of *Druids*; their uses, therefore, must have been sepulchral, according to the conjecture of Doctor *Borlase* . . . Around this (*Kist vaen*) was a circle of stones, inclosing an area of about 40 paces in diameter. . . . This monument went by the name of *Carchar Cynric Rŵth*, not that it ever was used as a prison originally; but there is a tradition, that in after times, a little tyrant of that name, in the neighbourhood, was wont to cram those who offended him, into the hollow of these stones; which might serve for the purposes of torment as well as the *little case* in the tower of *London*, or the iron cages of the *Bastille*. The other *Kist-vaen* was nearly similar to the first; but no mention

is made of the circle of stones: probably they were taken away before Mr. *Llwyd* visited the place" (*Tours* ii, pp. 211-213).

5. *Richard Gough*, in his edition of Camden's *Britannia* (1789, vol. ii, p. 577; ed. 1806, vol. iii, p. 209), writes: "The only stone monuments remaining at Kerig y Druidion were two Kistvaens close to the road about two or three miles from the village and really in Llanufydd parish in Tir Abbot Ucha."

The sites were visited and Messrs. Ellis Hughes and Evan Lewis Hughes, of Hafod-y-maidd, interviewed in 1915 and several times subsequently. Last visit, Sept. 21, 1928.

[*Inventory*, No. 98, p. 29. The sites were not identified by the Commissioners.]

TUMULUS: CRONGLWYD FAWR.

SITE. It stands in the third field from the junction of the roads from the village of Cerrig-y-druidion and Pentrevoelas respectively in the direction of Corwen. It is about 70 paces E. from the road. The field, called Cronglwyd Fawr from the farm of the name to the N.E., belongs to Caer Fechan farm.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxi, N.E.: lat. $53^{\circ} 1' 7''$; long. $3^{\circ} 33' 21''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The tumulus measures about 73 paces in circumference, and 3 ft. in height. It has been ploughed over with the rest of the field, but is otherwise undisturbed. Elevation: above contour line 800.

Seen July 25, 1922.

TUMULUS: PENTRE-CWM-MAWR.

SITE: This is situated a little over 4 m. w.s.w. of Cerrig-y-druidion village, in a field—Cae Garn—immediately to the w. of the lane leading to Pentre-cwm-mawr farm from the road between Capelau and Blaen y Cwm.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxi, N.W.: lat. $53^{\circ} 0' 37.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 39' 16''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The shape of the tumulus is oval, with the broader and higher end to the N. It is covered with turf, which, at the time of the writer's visit, was considerably burnt by the sun, indicating that there were stones fairly near the surface. The circumference is about 43 paces, and height at the N end about 2 ft. Elevation: above contour line 1,100.

Seen Sept. 15, 1925.

REMAINS OF CIST: BRYN HEILYN.

About 1,000 yds. s.s.e. of the highest point of Bryn Heilyn ("Helen" on Ordnance maps), which is a little less than $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the s.w. of the hamlet of Pentre-llyn-Cymer, on a heathery slope looking N. are to be seen several stone slabs placed sideways in the ground as if forming the sides of a cist. There are, however, no traces of a tumulus or cairn.

[6 in. O.S. xxv, N.W.: lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 7''$; long. $3^{\circ} 32' 19''$.]

Seen June 30, 1926.

REMAINS OF CAIRN: BRYN Y GARNEDD.

SITE. Bryn y Garnedd is a hill, 1,389 ft. high, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the N.N.W. of Cerrig-y-drudion village, overlooking on the E. the Alwen reservoir. The remains of the cairn are on the summit, about 150 paces to the N.N.W. of the sheep-fold which is situated near the top of the S. slope.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 14''$; long. $3^{\circ} 35' 30''$.]

DESCRIPTION. Very little is left of the cairn that once stood here, but sufficient to show the area it covered, which was about 38 paces in circumference. The stones were in all probability carried away to build the sheep-fold to the S.S.E.

Spot visited Jan. 12, 1926.

DESTROYED CISTFAEN: TAI UCHA.

REFERENCE. In the *Parochialia* (i, p. 114) the following entry appears:—"Karchar Kynrig Rwth Praedict: ag yn aralh; Kist vaen sydh ymhôb yn: yr oedh ynghae'r tai ycha drydydh a hon oedh yn o agos i'r eglwys."* Compare also N[ational] L[ibrary of] W[ales] MS. 1565 c., p. 89: "There were three cist vaenei in the parish of Cerrig y Drudion" [Letter dated May 23, 1696.]

SITE. Tai Uchaf is situated a little under a mile to the N.N.E. of Cerrig-y-drudion Church. The cist had apparently disappeared in Ed. Lhuyd's time. No trace of it now, at all events, is to be seen, and its exact site is not known.

VANISHED CISTS: HAFOD Y LLAN.

REFERENCE. The following reference to the cists in question is to be found in the *Parochialia* (i, p. 116):—"Mae kistie maen wrth havod y Lhan yn agos i Bont ar Alwen rh. y bont a havod y Lhan vo gawd arrian yn yn a honynt" ("There are stone cists by Hafod y Llan near Pont ar Alwen, between the bridge and Hafod y Llan. Money was found in one of them").

SITE. Hafod y Llan is $2\frac{3}{4}$ m. N. of Cerrig-y-drudion Church, Pont ar Alwen being a little over $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the S.S.E. of Hafod y Llan. The site indicated is close to the Alwen Reservoir (Birkenhead Waterworks) and has, in recent years, been very much disturbed. The cists were in all probability dismantled long ago, as no tradition of them is extant.

Site visited Sept. 14, 1925.

CAIRN SITES (?): PONT YR ALWEN.

I.

SITE. One is nearly 600 yds. to the N. of Pont yr Alwen, some 20 yds. E. of the road to Denbigh, and 30 yds. S. of the track, from Hafod-y-Llan Isaf, that crosses the road.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 43''$; long. $3^{\circ} 32' 46''$.]

* "Carchar Cynrig Rwth aforementioned, and another; a cist in each case. There was a third in the field of Tai Ucha, which was fairly near the church."

DESCRIPTION. Little more remains than the base of the cairn, if such it was—a circular patch of stones, 5 paces across. Elevation : below contour line 1,250.

II.

About 70 yds. N.N.W. of No. 1, on the w. side of the road to Denbigh, are the possible remains of another cairn or tumulus, about 12 yds. in diameter.

Seen June 30, 1926.

CIRCLES : MYNYDD POETH.

I.

SITE. The position of one of the circles is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the N. of Cerrig-y-drudion village, on Mynydd Poeth, 120 yds. or so to the w. of the road from Cerrig to the Alwen Waterworks, and 275 yds. N.W. of its junction with the road to Tyn-y-Gilfach.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 50''$; long. $3^{\circ} 33' 25''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This is a fairly large circle standing on a gentle heather-covered slope facing E. Its diameter is, from E. to W., about 30 paces, and from N. to S. 25 paces. The enclosing bank, which is continuous, is composed of earth and stone and is fairly wide. In places, as, for instance, on the S. side, it has been much disturbed, stones having been carried away for road metal. The interior level is somewhat lower than the ground outside.

Seen June 30, 1926.

II.

SITE. This is situated some 600 yds. N.N.E. of No. 1, in the angle formed by a bend in a wire fence, 150 yds. N. of the road from Cerrig-y-drudion to the Alwen Waterworks, at a point about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. to the S. of Pont-yr-Aber.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 33' 10''$.]

DESCRIPTION. Only about a third of this circle remains, the part outside the angle referred to having been destroyed with but faint traces of its existence left. The periphery consists of a bank of loose stones, the diameter of the enclosed area being about 25 yds. Abutting on the bank are three circular patches of stone, varying in size, two on the inside and one on the outside—huts apparently.

Seen June 30, 1926.

III.

CERRIG-Y-GWR-CETHIN.

SITE. About 600 yds. to the N.W. of No. 2, and 650 yds. or so to the W. of Pont-yr-Aber, close to the stream, Nant-y-gwr-Cethin, on the S. side, some 50 yds. W. of the fence, are two other circles.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 18''$; long. $3^{\circ} 33' 33''$.]

DESCRIPTION. These lie close to each other in a line N.E. and S.W. They are small in size, measuring only 7 yds. across. They are enclosed by banks of stone. The inside area also of the S.W. circle is

full of stones. To the E. of the circles, near the fence, is a large number of stones but not arranged in any order.

These circles bear the name of "Cerrig-y-gwr-Cethin" ("The Stones of the swarthy or severe man").

Seen June 30, 1926.

STONE CIRCLE : NEAR THE ALWEN WATERWORKS.

SITE. This circle is on the moor about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. due N. of Pont ar Alwen, some 50 paces from the road leading to Denbigh, and $2\frac{3}{4}$ m. N. of Cerrig-y-drudion village.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 52''$; long. $3^{\circ} 32' 49''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The circle is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ yds. in diameter, and contains in its periphery at present 10 stones, which are placed in the ground, and leaning slightly outwards. Two more have moved a little out of position, and 2 or 3 are lying loose on the surface. These latter may possibly be from the centre, where there is a small depression, which looks like the result of fairly recent digging. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

Seen Sept. 14, 1925, and June 30, 1926.

STONE CIRCLE : ALWEN RESERVOIR.

SITE. This was situated on level ground a few yards E. of the stream that runs into the reservoir from Tanybwllch, a little over $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W. of Pont yr Alwen. The site is now under water, but not far from the S. edge of the reservoir. It is marked on the sketch map in the Birkenhead Museum, which shows the spot where the bronze spear-head (p. 84) was discovered. The circle was brought to light about 1912 in stripping the soil when the water works were in course of construction.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 1''$; long. $3^{\circ} 34' 35''$.]

DESCRIPTION. Mr. Joseph Owen, of 4, Alwen Cottages, who saw the circle, informed the writer that the stones stood upright in the ground, and that there was an entrance at the N. end with a large stone on each side of it. The circle measured between 15 and 20 yds. across. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

CIRCLES : BRYN HEILYN.

SITE. Bryn Heilyn (wrongly "Helen" in Ordnance maps) is a hill, 1,271 ft. high at its summit, situated a little over 2 m. to the N.N.E. of the village of Cerrig-y-drudion. The circles, of which at least 13 are unmistakable, cross the hill in a line from near the River Alwen on the N. to within 120 yds. or so of the fence, which lies about 350 yds. to the S.S.W. of the summit. The hill belongs to Mr. A. O. Evans, Solicitor, Denbigh.

I.

Fifty yds. or so S. of the River Alwen, where it reaches its most northerly point, about 300 yds. W. of Pentre-llyn-Cymer, is a group

of three circles, two of which, lying E. and W., measure about 23 yds. across. The third, which is close by to the S. is smaller.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxv, N.W.; lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 28''$; long. $3^{\circ} 32' 23''$ (approximately).]

II.

Some 250 yds. to the S. on the N. slope of the hill is another small circle, 6 yds. in diameter.

[Lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 22''$; long. $3^{\circ} 32' 23''$ (approximately).]

III.

About 200 yds. S. of No. 2 is another fine circle, 60 paces in circumference, along the top of the enclosing bank, and 75 paces outside the bank, which is 1 ft. 6 in. high and 3 ft. wide. The bank is continuous except for a gap made on the S. side. Nothing but heather is to be seen inside the circle. Some 50 yds. slightly to the W. of S. is the highest point of the hill, where a pile of stones has been erected.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxv, N.W.; lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 16''$; long. $3^{\circ} 32' 27''$.]

IV.

On the S. slope, about 80 yds. S.W. of the pile of stones already referred to, are three circles, two of which, lying N. and S., measure 20 yds. across. The third, which is just to the N.E., has a diameter of 6 yds.

[Lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 13''$; long. $3^{\circ} 32' 27''$ (middle circle).]

V.

Still further down the slope, some 150 yds. S.S.W. of the highest point, are four circles together, a large one about 20 yds. in diameter, and three small ones, 6 yds. in diameter.

[Lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 10.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 32' 30''$ (the largest).]

VI.

Thirty yds. or so from No. 5, and 125 yds. from the fence at the foot of the hill, is another small circle, 6 paces in diameter.

[Lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 9.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 32' 32''$ (approximately).]

Seen Ap. 13 and June 30, 1926. The circles were pointed out to the writer by Mr. Joseph Owen, of the Alwen Waterworks. The exact location of the circles is difficult to give owing to there being so few landmarks from which to measure distances.

CIRCLES: PONT YR ALWEN.

SITE. About 300 yds. N. of Pont yr Alwen, on the uncultivated heather-covered mountain land, are two circles lying N. and S. and contiguous to each other.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, N.E.; lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 36''$; long. $3^{\circ} 32' 45''$ (southern).]

DESCRIPTION. Both are enclosed by low banks of earth and stone. The southern circle is about 14 yds. in diameter and the other about 9 yds. Elevation: above contour line 1,000.

Seen June 30, 1926.

PLATFORM : PONT YR ALWEN.

SITE. The antiquity in question is situated a little over 500 yds. to the N.N.W. of Pont yr Alwen, about 90 paces w. from the road to Denbigh, and 140 paces s.w. of the point at which the latter road is crossed by a track to Hafod-y-Llan Isaf.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 42''$; long. $3^{\circ} 32' 51''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The site to which we give the name of " Platform " is a paved area, somewhat oblong in outline and measuring roughly 20 yds. by 7 yds. The stones forming the pavement are fairly large slabs placed on their edges a little obliquely in the ground and touching each other. Some have been removed. Elevation : below contour line 1,250.

Seen June 30, 1926.

CIRCLES : CARN BRYs.

REFERENCE. In a letter to the Rev. (later Bishop) C. Lyttelton, at Oxford, written by the Rev. George Griffiths, Rector of Llanycil, Bala, dated March 14, 1744-5 [MS. Stowe 753, f. 55 : Catalogue of MSS. relating to Wales in the Brit. Mus., Pt. iv (Edward Owen), 1922, p. 839], is the following :—" . . . First of all I went to a place called Garn Hill in the parish of Cerrig y Druidion, about 2 miles from the church. Upon this hill I found 5 circles, but no avenues of stones leading thereto, only green paths, but probably there might be stone avenues in former years, and before this time destroyed by the inhabitants (as I imagine) to wall in their fields, as they are all so in that country. Near one of these circles is to be seen the remains of a stone chest that was taken up about four or 5 years ago in which they sayed some coins were found, but I could not possible come at any of them, because the fellow that took it up would not confess ; further, it was sayed that they heard from their fathers that 1 or 2 were found there many years ago."

IDENTIFICATION. The writer has inquired of several persons who know Carn Brys, e.g. Messrs. T. Jones, Cerrig Ellgwm, J. Roberts, Hafoty Bach, O. Thomas, Carn Brys, and J. Roberts, Bryn-y-ffynnon, about the circles referred to above, and he has made a personal search, but without being satisfied as to their position. It is not impossible that they have been destroyed.

Cairn-circle. There is, however, a circle or cairn-circle on the lower part of the N.E. slope of the hill, some 300 yds. s.w. of Bryn-y-ffynnon, to which the " ffridd " belongs [6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 1' 27''$; long. $3^{\circ} 38' 58''$]. This consists of a ring of about 9 stones protruding out of the ground, 6 yards across. In the centre of the site, which looks like that of a cairn or tumulus, a hole has been dug.

Huts. Other remains on the slope of the hill, the part known as Creigiau Lladron, which is a sheep-walk belonging to Hafoty Bach and Pentre Felin, are small huts built of stone, of uncertain date.

There are 4 of these between 500 and 600 yds. w.s.w. of Bryn-y-ffynnon, and 150 to 200 yds. s. of a line of stones (*see* below). They are irregular in shape and scarcely large enough to give shelter to more than one person. The two northernmost are contiguous, one being partly placed under the shelter of a rock and the other circular.

Seen Ap. 18, 1929.

ALLEGED REMAINS OF A BURIAL CHAMBER: TYN-Y-GILFACH.

About 250 yds. E.N.E. of Tyn-y-gilfach farmhouse, which is a little over $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.N.W. of Cerrig-y-drudion Church, in a field called "Clytiau" [6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 42''$; long. $3^{\circ} 33' 55''$] is a patch of ground occupied by a considerable number of large stones, some of which are loose on the surface and others embedded in the ground. At the E. end are four stones which have been taken to be the remains of a burial chamber (Cromlech). One stone—the easternmost—is placed upright in the ground, but not very firmly. This is about 1 yd. high and $1\frac{3}{4}$ yds. wide at the base. Immediately to the w. of it, lying on the ground, is a huge slab, oblong in shape and measuring 9 ft. long, 5 ft. wide, and 1 ft. deep. Under this can be seen another good-sized stone. Leaning against the large slab is a fourth stone a little smaller than the first mentioned.

It seems doubtful, to say the least, whether these stones have any archaeological significance.

Seen Sept. 15, 1925, and Ap. 13, 1926.

HUTS: CRAIG YR IYRCHEN BACH.

SITE. These are situated in a sheltered depression, just above a little defile, on the N.W. slope of the mountain called Mynydd Poeth (owner: Mr. Hugh Hughes, Tai'n-y-foel, Cerrig-y-drudion), nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. of Craig yr Iyrchen Bach, which is about $2\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.N.W. of Cerrig-y-drudion village.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 1''$; long. $3^{\circ} 33' 40''$.]

DESCRIPTION. At the spot indicated are abundant signs, in the shape of low walls, of prehistoric dwellings of different sizes and shapes, the bulk being rectilinear. Two of the enclosures measure about 20 by 20 paces, and another 14 by 14. The site is called Buches-y-wrach, that is, "The Hag's milking-fold." About 25 paces to the N. is a stone circle 4 yds. or so in diameter.

Visited Jan. 12, 1926.

PILE OF STONES: MWDWL EITHIN, HIRAETHOG.

SITE. This stands on the summit of Mwdwl Eithin (1,742 ft. above Ordnance datum), $3\frac{1}{4}$ m. to the N.E. of Pentrevoelas village.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 20''$; long. $3^{\circ} 37'$.]

DESCRIPTION. The pile of stones, which is about 35 paces in circumference and 10 ft. in height, is somewhat irregular in shape and probably not an ancient cairn.

A little distance to the N. is a considerably smaller pile of stones.

The name "Mwdwl Eithin" indicates that the hill was a beacon site.

Seen Sept. 21, 1926.

CARN BRYs.

The Rev. H. Longueville Jones, in his list of Denbighshire tumuli in *Arch. Camb.* for 1855, pp. 262 ff., gives: "Carn Brys on the summit of Copa Ceiliawg 3 m. E. by S. from Yspytty." On the highest point (1,751 ft.) of this mountain is a pile of stones erected in modern times, but nowhere on the summit is there an ancient cairn.

Visited 1913 and Ap. 18, 1929.

LINE OF UPRIGHT STONES: CARN BRYs.

"Running across a large 'ffridd' or enclosed waste, between Giler and Carn Prys, is a single line of 18 stones, standing above ground from 2 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft., and, in one instance, 4 ft. [6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, s.w.; lat. $53^{\circ} 1' 32''$; long. $3^{\circ} 39' 28''$]" *Inventory*, No. 90, p. 28. These stones have no archaeological significance, being simply a modern boundary line.

Seen Ap. 18, 1929.

BRONZE SOCKETED CELT: VILLAGE.

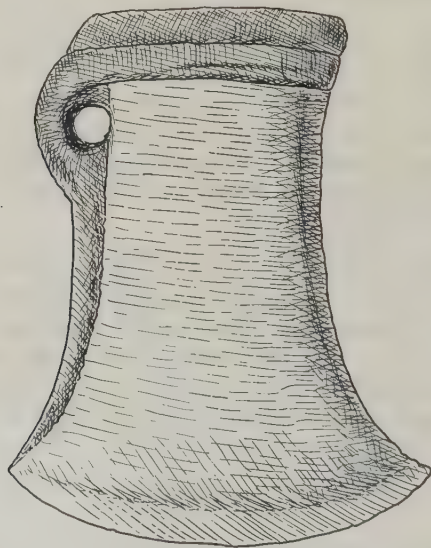


FIG. 16—SOCKETED CELT, CERRIG-Y-DRUDION.

DISCOVERY. The implement here referred to was found about 1890 by the late Constable Breese, of Cerrig-y-drudion (after his retirement), in the field immediately behind his home, Lancaster

House, in Tyddyn Terrace, now occupied by his daughter, the widow of Mr. W. Williams, late parish clerk. The field in question had just been ploughed and harrowed.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 1' 25.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 33' 34''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The celt, which is socketed and looped, is somewhat small, measuring $2\frac{3}{4}$ in. in length and $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. across the broadest part. The socket is 1 in. by $\frac{7}{8}$ in.

PRESENT LOCATION. It is now in the possession of Mr. Tom Owen, Alwen Waterworks, Cerrig-y-drudion, who acquired it from Isaac W. Breese, son of the finder.

Seen in 1913 and subsequently.

BRONZE CELT.

This is referred to in the *Parochialia* (pt. i, p. 114) in the following terms :—" Mae Bwyalh bres gan Reinall Jones yn ymyl Eglwys Ker y Drydion" [Rheinallt Jones, who lives near Cerrig y Drudion Church, has a bronze axe].

BRONZE DAGGER OR DIRK : ELOR GARREG.



FIG. 17—1. DIRK, ELOR GARREG 2. DAGGER, NILIG (CYFFYLLIOG). 3. SOCKETED CELT, LLANTYSILIO. 4. SOCKETED CELT, DENBIGH.

DISCOVERY : The spot where the above was found is about 3 m. N.N.E. of the village of Cerrig-y-drudion, on a stretch of mountain land, to the left of the road to Denbigh, a little to the N.W. of Graig Hir [6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 17''$; long. $3^{\circ} 32' 54''$]. This land, which is used as a sheep-run, belongs to Elor Garreg Isaf farm, the homestead of which is situated on the right-hand side of the road referred to.

The finder was Mrs. Catherine Roberts, wife of Morris Roberts, of Elor Garreg Ganol, a small homestead (now in ruins) just to the N. of Elor Garreg Isaf. Mrs. Roberts came upon the implement in 1875 while stacking peat at the above spot. It lay point upwards in the bog.

SUBSEQUENT HISTORY. After Mrs. Roberts's death (about 1879) the dagger was given by her husband to David Ellis, Cefn-y-gors, Pentre-Llyn-Cymer. Later, D. Ellis went to live with his daughter (Mrs. Edwards) at Tan-y-bwlch, Llanfihangel G.M., where he died. The weapon then became the property of Mrs. Edwards's son, Mr. R. Edwards, Garden Villa, Denbigh, who sold it in 1905 to the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, where it is now preserved.

DESCRIPTION. The Bronze Dagger or Dirk under consideration has a long straight-sided blade which gradually tapers to a point, with central midrib. It is 17 inches long and $2\frac{1}{2}$ across the haft end. In this end are two rivet holes, close to the edge at the two extreme angles, in which the rivets still remain. It is said that a small bit of the wooden handle adhered to the weapon at the time it was found.

Seen Sept., 1914, and June 18, 1925, at the Ashmolean, Oxford.

BRONZE SPEARHEAD: ALWEN WATERWORKS.

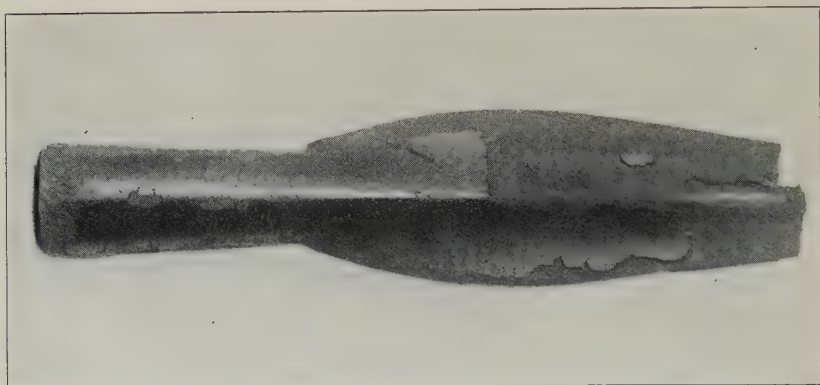


FIG. 18—BRONZE SPEARHEAD, ALWEN WATERWORKS.

DISCOVERY. The spearhead in question was found in 1911, a few feet below the peat level, on the site of the reservoir which was then being constructed for the Birkenhead Corporation by the damming of the River Alwen, some 3 m. N. of Cerrig-y-drudion village.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, N.E.: lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 7''$; long. $3^{\circ} 34' 53''$ (approximately).]

DESCRIPTION. This implement is a socketed leaf-shaped spearhead, made of bronze, with a very hard external coating, which, in places, has been chipped off. Unfortunately, a piece about 3 in. long has been broken off the point of the blade. In the socket, in the plain of the blade, are two holes, through which a pin of metal passed to secure the shaft. The dimensions of the implement are: present length, $7\frac{3}{8}$ in.; original length, about 11 in.; width at broadest part, $1\frac{3}{4}$ in.; length of socket from base to wings of blade, $2\frac{7}{8}$ in.; diameter of socket, nearly 1 in.

PRESENT LOCATION. The spearhead, after its discovery, was in the custody of the engineers of the waterworks, Sir Alexander Binnie,

Son and Deacon, Westminster, who, in 1913, furnished the writer with particulars of the implement and its discovery. In 1917 it was presented by the Water Committee to the Birkenhead Corporation, and is now preserved at the Museum in Hamilton Street. Attached to it, in the case, is a small plan showing the spot where it was found, and the site, some yards away, of a stone circle brought to light on stripping the peat.

Spearhead seen March 3, 1925, and Oct. 8, 1926.

CIST AND REMAINS OF A BRONZE BOWL : TY-TAN-Y-FOEL.

DISCOVERY. The cist, in which the bronze remains were contained, was discovered in April, 1924, by Mr. T. O. Jones, of Aelwyd Brys, Cefn Brith, Cerrig-y-drudion (now of Cerniog Bach), while digging for stones to repair a wall, in a small quarry in a field called "Y Foel," belonging to Ty-tan-y-foel, a holding farmed along with Aelwyd Brys. Ty-tan-y-foel is $\frac{2}{3}$ m. N.N.W. of Cerrig-y-drudion village, and the quarry 500 yds. or so N.N.W. of the house and 250 yds. N.E. of the farmstead of Perthi Llwydion. The exact spot in the field is 126 paces from the hedge on the N. side, and 8 from that on the E. When the stones of the cist, which was about $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. below the turfed surface at the top of the quarry, were removed in the course of the digging, fragments of bronze were noticed embedded in the soil inside. These were all carefully collected and taken to Aelwyd Brys, where the writer first saw them on September 15, 1925. No bones or ashes were found in the cist, and the writer, who visited the spot, could detect no traces of a burial. Some of the stones which formed the cist lay about partly covered with rubble.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 21''$; long. $3^{\circ} 34' 15''$.]

DESCRIPTION. 1. *Cist*. Room for the cist had been cut in the shaly rock. Its internal dimensions were : length, 5 ft. ; breadth, 1 ft. 6 in. ; depth, 1 ft. 6 in. The stones composing it were an assortment of moderately thick slabs, of which three or four were in each of the sides, one at each end, and two or three in the floor. The covering stones had disappeared, and the cist in consequence was filled with soil.

2. *Bronze Fragments*. These consisted of four short lengths of chain, totalling 18 in., the two longest pieces being about 6 and 7 in. respectively, with a loop attached to the end of one and a loop and rivet to the end of the other ; a ring beautifully patinated, about $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. in diameter, having a small band of leather around it and a collar ornamented with ring and dot pattern ; two bits of folded leather ; about 17 bronze fragments, most of which were pieces of a decorated rim a little over an inch wide, with slight remains of the walls or sides of a circular vessel.

SUBSEQUENT HISTORY. On Sept. 16, 1925, the writer, with the ready consent of Mr. T. O. Jones, despatched the remains for examination to Mr. Reginald A. Smith, F.S.A., of the British Museum, who thus reported on them, Oct. 18, 1925 : " Your bronze fragments have

been cleaned, and reveal a good deal of ornament on what I presume is the underface of a hanging bowl. It dates from the Early British period (pre-Roman), but I am not sure of the century at present, nor

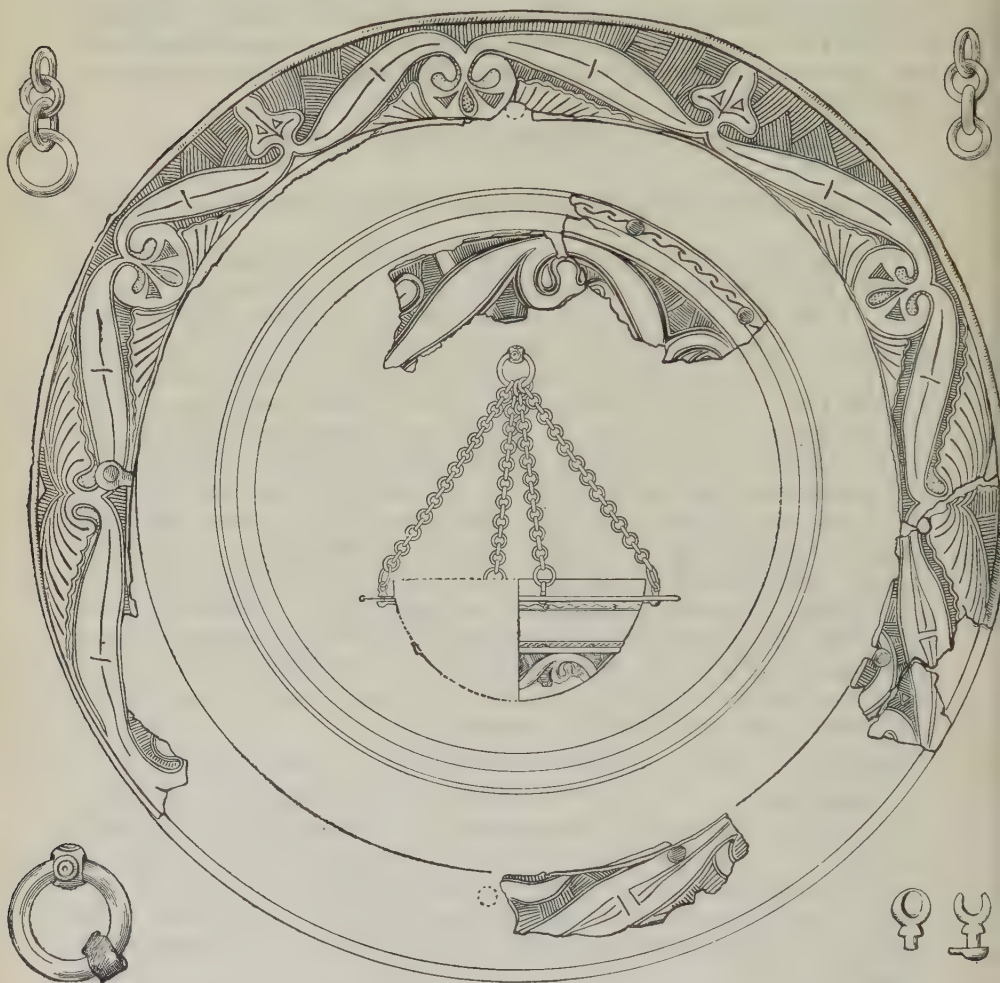


FIG. 19—BRONZE HANGING BOWL (ELEVATION AND SECTION).

of the precise purpose of the bowl. It seems to be the ancestor of the Anglo-Saxon enamelled bowls of the 6th-7th century A.D. (many centuries later), and should prove an important stage in the evolution of the series."

Mr. Smith at the same time applied for permission to exhibit the relics at the next meeting of the Society of Antiquaries. The meeting was held on Feb. 18, 1926, at which he read a paper on "Two Early British Bronze Bowls," which appeared in the *Antiquaries Journal*, July, 1926 (vol. vi, No. 3), pp. 276-283.

THEORETICAL RESTORATION. As reconstructed by Mr. Reginald Smith, the vessel consisted of an hemispherical bowl, 8 in. across

the mouth and $3\frac{3}{4}$ in. high, with a projecting horizontal rim about $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. wide, $\frac{1}{2}$ in. or so below the lip, to which the suspending chains, of which there were four, were attached by means of loops fixed by domed rivets on the under face. The other ends of the chains were fastened to the stout bronze ring described above, enabling the bowl to be carried on the finger. The bowl was made up of three pieces. First, there was the central part, consisting of the flange or projecting horizontal rim, with cylindrical edging fixed on the

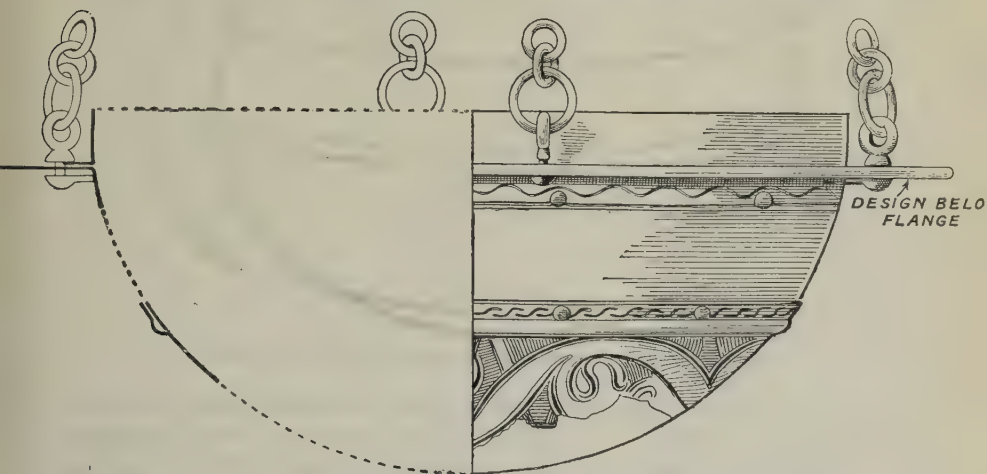


FIG. 20—BRONZE HANGING BOWL (DECORATION AND DETAILS).

outer curve. The flange bent downwards on the inner edge—but how far is uncertain—to form the wall of the bowl. It had a wavy line outside just under the flange, and rivets at intervals of about 2 in. There was a collar above, a little over $\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide, fastened by minute rivets to the inner edge of the flange at right angles, giving extra height to the bowl, but devoid of ornament. Lastly, there was the lower part of the bowl, which overlapped, and was fastened by rivets to the lower edge of the wall in one piece with the flange. The rivets are about $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. apart in a band incised with debased running spirals. The base as restored is purely conjectural. Possibly there was a foot, as in an example found at Ewelme, Oxon. (fig. 21). Of the decoration on the lower side of the flange, Mr. Reginald Smith says: "The design is remarkable. Derivation from the classical palmette (anthemion) [palm leaf shape] is obvious, but there is considerable freedom and irregularity in the drawing and the effect is unsymmetrical, so that the missing portions cannot be restored with confidence." "The design on its under face is as fine as it is unexpected in Britain, but foreign parallels are close and already familiar. Of the two well-known urns from Finistère illustrated by Paul du Chatellier (*La Poterie . . . en Armorique*, pls. 14, 15) and referred to by Déchelette to La Tène I (*Manuel*, pp. 1468, 1473), one was found full of cremated bones in a cist at Plouhinec; the other was found in a barrow at St. Pol-de-Léon, but without further details. Its decoration is supposed to be derived

from a prototype of metal, the palmette on the base being perhaps copied from the original cover; and it certainly bears a strong resemblance to that of the Welsh bronze. Another parallel, more strictly classical and no doubt earlier, is the design on a bronze bowl from Les Saulces-Champenoises, Ardennes (*Manuel*, p. 1452), and the



FIG. 21—BRONZE BOWL WITH THREE ESCUTCHEONS, EWELME, OXON.

Berru helmet has features in common, but the classical element seems to vanish in La Tène II." "The alternate hatching of the ground at the top of the drawing is a common feature in Early British art, but here probably made its first appearance in England, though found in the Hallstatt period abroad."

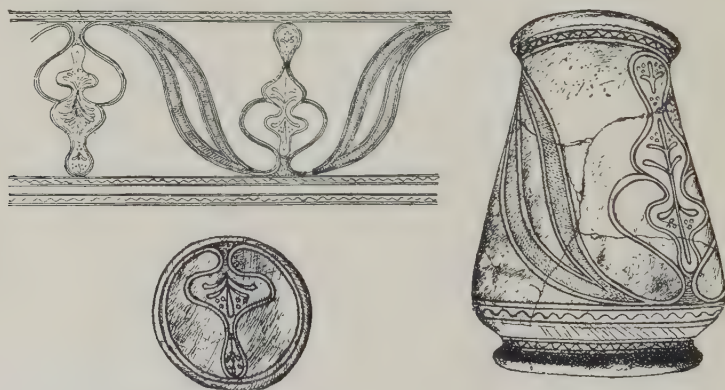


FIG. 22—POTTERY VASE WITH DETAILS, ST. POL-DE-LÉON, FINISTÈRE.

The bowl was very light and fragile, but despite that fact the loops show signs of much friction, one, which is fixed to the flange, being worn through, and another, which is attached to a piece of chain, extremely worn and ready to break.

PURPOSE OF BOWL. Of the use and contents of the bowl Mr. Reginald Smith writes: "The Anglo-Saxon enamelled bowls probably continued the Celtic tradition, but throw no light on these points [purpose and contents], still, as they sometimes have enamelled discs

inside as well as outside the base, it is clear that they were meant to be seen both from above and below. Solids seem out of the question, and any liquid content would presumably be transparent, so that the search is narrowed down to water, and it is possible that holy water was carried round to devotees in these vessels for dipping or aspersion. This might explain their use after the conversion of England, and the occasional addition of Christian symbols (e.g. the Lullingstone bowl and Faversham openwork escutcheon with the Latin cross). . . . The hanging bowl is so thin that even when new it can hardly have been filled to the brim with water. The same applies to a primitive form that seems to link the Anglo-Saxon bowls with La Tène I and confirms their Celtic origin, which has long been suspected on account of the Irish complexion of their enamelled escutcheons. The Ewelme bowl (fig. 21) is made in pieces riveted together, the lower part overlapping the upper as in fig. 20, but the three chains were attached to upright circular escutcheons on the outer side of the everted lip, where, as in Anglo-Saxon times, a loop sprang from the escutcheon and overlapped the horizontal rim," as in the case, for example, of a fine bronze bowl, 8 in. across the mouth with three escutcheons, found in 1854 at the feet of a human skeleton in the Parish of Caistor, and now exhibited in the City and County Museum, Lincoln, where the writer saw it on June 8, 1926. "If this connexion," that is, of the Early British bowls as represented by the Cerrig-y-drudion example with the Anglo-Saxon specimens, "is recognised," so concludes Mr. Reginald Smith, "the use of bronze hanging-bowls must be a Celtic custom that survived at least a thousand years, for the Welsh example may well be of the 4th cent. B.C. and the late Anglo-Saxon specimens looted by the Vikings have been proved, by associated finds in Norway, to belong to the early part of the Viking period."

PRESENT LOCATION. Mr. T. O. Jones presented the bowl to the National Museum of Wales on the understanding that it would be exhibited in North Wales. It has accordingly been deposited in the St. Asaph Cathedral Library, which is affiliated to the National Museum.

ROMAN COINS : HAFOD-Y-MAIDD.

Early last century a hoard of Roman third brasses was discovered by John Jones, servant of Tyddyn Farm, Cefn Brith, in an earthenware vessel while getting stones from a quarry in a field called Ffridd Hafod-y-maidd—the field to the E. of Ffridd-y-gistfaen (a lane intervening), and distant nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.N.W. of Hafod-y-maidd farmstead.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv N.E.: lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 53''$; long. $3^{\circ} 36' 44''$.]

None of the coins can now be traced. Particulars of the discovery were obtained in 1916 and 1917 from two elderly men employed at Hafod-y-maidd, viz. Mr. Ellis Hughes (died 1926) and Mr. Evan Lewis Hughes (born in 1850). The latter had heard one Cadwaladr Jones, of Tan-y-fron, Cefn Brith, who worked at Hafod-y-maidd, state that he saw the coins at the time. They resembled "ffyrllingod," i.e. farthings, and would fill a hat. Mr. E. L. Hughes confirmed this account July 16, 1928, and added that he remembered several young men, many years ago, who had some of them attached to their watch chains.

QUERN : CERNIOGE MAWR.

PROVENANCE. This was discovered in the peat in Cors (i.e. bog of) Cerniog Mawr, about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the West of Glasfryn Mill, which stands on the left-hand side of the road to Pentrevoelas from Cerrigy-drudion, about $2\frac{1}{4}$ m. from the latter place.

DESCRIPTION. The stone, which is an upper quern stone, is much worn by grinding. It is 16 in. in diameter and 2 in. in depth. The hole in the centre measures between $2\frac{1}{2}$ and 3 in. across.

PRESENT LOCATION. It was sold by E. L. Hughes, the finder, to John Hughes, of Glasfryn Mill, father of the present miller, Evan Hughes, who now has it in his possession.

Seen in 1916 and 1925.

CHIRK.

PILLAR STONE : FRON UCHAF.

SITE. This stands in a field called Cae Carreg Lwyd, belonging to Fron Uchaf, from the farmstead of which it is distant about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. w.s.w. The stone is 30 yds. s. of the road leading from Blaenau Dwr to Fron Cysylltau.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xl, n.w. : lat. $52^{\circ} 57' 17''$; long. $3^{\circ} 5' 26''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The height of the stone, which leans a little, is nearly 5 ft., breadth 2 ft. 9 in., and thickness about 2 ft. It would seem to have been fixed on end where it is by man.

Seen Nov. 2, 1928.

[*Inventory*, No. 112, p. 36.]

CLOCAENOG.

TUMULUS : COED PENNANT.

SITE. This is situated a little less than a mile to the n.w. of Clocaenog Church, and 500 yds. to the e.s.e. of the Bagot Monument, close to the fence on the w. side of Coed Pennant (a wood recently cut down), some 225 paces s.s.w. of the gateway leading to Pennant.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xix, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 5'$; long. $3^{\circ} 23' 24''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The circumference of the tumulus is 50 paces, and present height $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. Its material is mountain soil mixed with quantities of stone. There are no signs of its having been disturbed, but it is evident that it has been much reduced in height by some operation or other. It is covered with turf. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

Seen Sept. 16, 1924, and Aug. 19, 1926.

DESTROYED STONE CIRCLE: "PRESEB Y FUWCH FRECH," LODGE.

REFERENCES. 1. Among the *Lhuydiana* given in Canon J. Fisher's edition of Fenton's *Tours in Wales* (appendix iv, p. 335) appears the following note:—"Near the place where is *sepulchrum Emiliani Tavisaci* there was a place called Presep y fuwch [the crib of the cow], and an enclosed spot by about 15 or 20 stones, each a load for 4 Oxen, placed on end near each other."

2. In the National Library of Wales MS. 1565 c. (Angharad Llwyd=Kinnel MS. 65), p. 85, the following account of the "Preseb" is to be found:—"Llandecla, May 21, 1696 . . . O mewn llai na hañer milldir at hon [the *Similini Tavisaci* stone] yr oedd man a elwir 'Preseb y vywch vrech,' sev pymtheg, neu unar bymtheg o gerrig afliniedd [o lwyth pedwer eidion bob un] gwedi ei gosod ar ei pennau megis corlan yn agos at ei gilidd, nid oedh y Gorlan yma oddiar bym llath ar ei thraws, ag ynghylch dwy droedfedd oedd uchder pob carreg; y rhain a ddygpwyd yn ddiweddar ymaith i adeiladu tŷ y y cymodogaeth; o mewn dau ergid carreg at y preseb yma, y mae lle, a elwir y *Petrial*: lle bu dynion yn ddyweddar yn cloddio am Drysor, ond ni chowson ond dwy garreg gwedi ei gosod ar ei hochrreu; un [mal yr oeddynt yn tybied] wrth ben gwr a gladdesid, ar llall wrth ei draed" ["Within less than $\frac{1}{2}$ m. of this—the *Similini Tavisaci* stone—was a place called Preseb y Fuwch Frech, that is, 15 or 16 rude stones [each one four oxen's load] placed erect like a fold close to each other, this fold was not above [?] 5 yds. across, and the height of each stone was 2 ft.; these were carried away to build a house in the neighbourhood, within two stones' throw of this preseb is a place called the *Petrial*, where men have been lately digging for treasure, but they found nothing except two stones set on their sides, one [as they supposed] at the head of a man that was buried, and the other at his feet."]

SITE. Local tradition places the site of the "Preseb" (Crib) in a field belonging to a small holding called "Lodge." The field is the next but one to the house in the direction of Cefn Bannog, and the nearest to the latter place. "Lodge" is situated about $\frac{3}{4}$ m. w.s.w. of Pont Petrial, and about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. n.w. from the Ruthin and Cerrig-y-drudion road at the nearest point.

DESTRUCTION. The late Mr. Griffith Jones, of Hafoty Hendre, who died in 1918 at the age of 84, told the writer in 1917 that the "Preseb," which was about 2 yds. long, was destroyed between 1860 and 1870, when the field was enclosed and cultivated. At the same time a well, which lay close by, and called "Ffynnon y Fuwch Frech" (The Freckled Cow's Well), was drained. This seems irreconcilable with the statement made in the letter quoted above, that the "Preseb" was dismantled before 1696 and was 5 yds. across.

It is supposed by some, but apparently without justification, that the "crib" was in the boggy field next to Lodge, where there is a well.

The "Preseb" in all probability was a stone circle.

FOLKLORE. The late Rev. Elias Owen, of Llanyblodwel, in his book, entitled *Welsh Folklore* (1896, p. 130), gives the following particulars and legend of *Preseb-y-Fuwch Frech*:—The “Cow had her pasture land on the hill close to the farm, called Cefn Bannog. . . . The site of the cow house is still pointed out, and retains its name, Preseb y Fuwch Frech. . . . Close to this place are traces of a small enclosure called *Gwal Erw y Fuwch Frech*. . . . There was what was once a track-way leading from the ruins of the cow-house [preseb] to a spring called *Ffynon-y-Fuwch-Frech*” (distance 150 yds). The feeding ground of the cow was called *Waun Bannog*— $\frac{1}{2}$ m. from the *Preseb*. This cow was the mother of the Ychen Bannog or large-horned oxen.

The legend: “When any one was in want of milk they went to this cow, taking with them a vessel into which they milked the cow, and however big the vessel was, they always departed with the pail filled with rich milk, and it made no difference however often she was milked; she could never be milked dry. This continued for a long time, and glad indeed the people were to avail themselves of the inexhaustible supply of new milk. At last a wicked hag, filled with envy at the people’s prosperity, determined to milk the cow dry and for this purpose she took a riddle with her, and milked and milked the cow, until at last she could get no more milk from her. After this the cow left the country and was never seen again.”

Tradition further states that she went straight to a lake 4 m. off, bellowing as she went, and that she was followed by her two children, the “*Dau Eidion Bannog*.” The lake was *Llyn-dau-ychen*, in the Parish of Cerrig-y-drudion—partly filled in when the Alwen reservoir was made.

Site of *Preseb* visited July, 1917.

TUMULUS (?) : BEDD EMLYN.

SITE. The site known as Bedd Emlyn (Emlyn’s Grave) is on the northern of two small hillocks, which crown a heather-covered knoll about 63 paces s.w. of the gate leading to Maes Tyddyn Uchaf from Clocaenog moor.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxv, N.E. : lat. 53° 4’ 3” ; long. 3° 24’ 51.”]

DESCRIPTION. Right in the centre of the said hillock is an artificially-made hole in the shape of a cross, lying E. and W. The dimensions are : length, 8 yds. ; width, 2 yds. ; depth, 1 yd. ; length of cross cutting, 7 yds. At the point where the trenches intersect lies a large stone, 6 × 3 × 1 ft. Fragments of slaty stone are to be seen inside and about.

EXCAVATION. The hole just referred to seems to have been made Sept. 15, 1854, at the time of the visit of the *Cambrian Archaeological Association* to the spot, during the Ruthin Meeting. In the Report of the Meeting in *Arch. Camb.*, 1854, p. 240, the following allusion appears:—“At the distance of 5 or 6 miles from Ruthin [the excursionists] quitted their carriages, and proceeded on horseback and on

foot across the heathy moor over which the turnpike road leads. Here they found stone circles, *cytiau* and barrows, strewn about in utter confusion, and in every direction. The first important point was the object of the last-mentioned class [barrows], already alluded to, and known as Bedd Emlyn. Here some excavations were commenced, but without any sort of success."

TUMULUS (?). That there ever was a tumulus or cairn on the hillock in question is very doubtful. No traces are visible now, the slightly raised bank on the N. side of the hole being the soil heaped up at the time of the excavations just mentioned.

INSCRIBED STONE. Up to 1813 or thereabouts an inscribed stone, marking the head of a grave, with another, uninscribed, at the foot, about 4 ft. distant, stood on or near the site just described. In or about that year the inscribed stone was removed by the landlord, Lord Bagot, to the lawn of his residence—Pool Park, Ruthin—where it remains. Tales are related locally of several unsuccessful attempts having been made to remove the stone, and of the operation having to be abandoned owing to thunderstorms. Compare Ed. Pugh's statement in his *Cambria Depicta*, quoted below.

INSCRIPTION. The inscription, which is in Latin and Ogam, has been variously read. All the letters except the first one or two are unmistakable. The most generally accepted reading formerly was AIMILINI TOVISACI. Hence the name "Bedd Emlyn." That was Westwood's (*Lapidarium Walliae*, 1876-9, p. 204, cf. *Arch. Camb.*, 1855, p. 115.) But the initial letter is undoubtedly s. To the right of this is a natural fissure in the stone, which was taken to be a letter or part of one. The late Sir J. Rhys's decipherment of the Latin was: SUMILINI TOVISACI, the Ogam being SUBE[or I]LINO[or U] TOVISACI (*Arch. Camb.*, 1874, pp. 17, 18). Prof. R. A. S. Macalister, of Dublin, maintains (*Arch. Camb.*, 1922, p. 219), and the present writer agrees, that the first Latin word should be read, SIMILINI (cf. the note of J. Lloyd's, given below), and the Ogam s[U]M[I]L[I]N[I], the second consonant being m and not b,

PREVIOUS REFERENCES. 1. *Britannia* (Camden), ed. 1600, p. 599: "Haud multum a Clocaenog haec in saxo legitur inscriptio AMILLIN TOVISATOC" (Not far from Clocaenog this inscription is read on a stone).

2. Bp. Gibson's Edition of *Britannia* (Incorporating information derived from Edward Lhuyd), 4th ed. 1772, vol. ii, p. 65: "Not far from Klocainog we read this inscription on a stone [which is doubtless an epitaph of some soldier of note, who can be but very little, if at all, later than the Romans: AIMILINI TOVISAG. The name Aimilinus we are to understand as the same with Æmilinus. . . . As for the second word, I am in some doubt whether we ought to read it TOVISAG or TOVISACI; if the former, it is British, and signifies a Leader or General, and if the latter, it seems only the same word latinized. Mr. Lloyd (from whom I received this more accurate copy of the inscription than had been printed before) adds that the place where this stone lies is called Bryn y Bedhen [which signifies the Hill

of Graves, and that there is near it an artificial mount or tumulus, called Y Krig Vryn, which may be Englished Barrow-hill, also that on the hills adjoining there are several circles of stones, and in the same neighbourhood a place called Rhos y Gadva, or Battle field].”

3. Letter of J. Lloyd's to Ed. Lluyd (Ashmole MS., 1829, fol. 147 [In Bodleian Library]): “Ruthin, Aug: ye 3^d [year?] . . . As for ye stone of Cloecaenog I defie y^r criticks to confute me in w^t I sent you. I scruple nothing but ye Notches on ye sides w^{ch} I suspect to have been done by idling shepherds in former times. The inscription is but course (sic) as I endeavour'd to express it in ye copy tho legible enough, and ye notches seem too deep to be cut on so hard a stone wth children's knives tho not altogether as plain perhaps as ye Inscription, and as it were carelessly cut here and there ab^t ye edges. But even those Notches are crusted over as ye rest of ye stone wth a sort of spar and petrified cen y cerrig and such a stone it is as those grow upon, viz. cerrig llwydion . . . [fol. 150]. W^t to make of Cloecaenog Monum^t you enquired for? The Inscription is exactly thus $\begin{smallmatrix} \text{S}^{\text{ILINI}} \\ \text{TOVISAC} \end{smallmatrix}$ —ye hyphen above ye 2d letter was ye same carving and ye bottom did not meet with the next letter. At ye edges of ye stone I observ'd these on both sides. . . . The hills ab^t it have several circles of stones and one of ye Tumuli call'd Y Crygfrun (an Cerig-fryn?) f^m ye collection of stones. Ye countrey-fellow my author call'd it an old castle. A mile or 2 f^m y^r place there is Rhôs y Flemys or Flemyns, and Rhos y Gadfa, and ye next hill is Moel Lllys y Vene, 2 miles off is Lllys y Frenhines, something further Lllys Dimper. Ye place where ye stone lies is bryn y beddau.”

4. Lhuydiana (appendix iv in Fenton's *Tours in Wales*, ed. J. Fisher, 1917), p. 335: “Near the place where is *sepulchrum Emiliani Tavisaci* was a place called Presep y vuwch.” . . . “The grave of the tall man, having a stone at each end, 3 or 4 yards in length, ar Vryn y Petruall, and there are letters on one of the stones.” [The last quotation presumably refers to the Bedd Emlyn stone.]

5. Gough's Ed. of *Britannia* (1806, vol. iii, p. 211): “In Cloecaenog parish on a dreary heath three miles from Ruthin, and a mile out of the road are two stones at each end of a grave, 4 ft. asunder, the shortest, 3½ ft. high, the other 6½ ft., and out of its upright, on the broadest face of which (being 2½ ft.) are these letters, two inches long, in lines of 10 inches each. Mr. Lhuyd reads it Aemilini Tavisag, and explains it Aemilianus Dux. . . . The grave is in a hollow 8 feet diameter, and just below it is the tumulus which Lhuyd calls Krig Vryn (Barrow Hill), but scarce to be noticed, and the spot where the stone lies he calls Bryn y Bedhen. . . . The hill below is called Kevn Tyr [Hir] (Long-backed field). A farmer's man who conducted me to the inscription assured me it had never been made out.”

6. *Cambria Depicta* (1816), by E. Pugh (died 1813), of Ruthin (An account of a tour through Wales undertaken between 1804 and 1813), p. 399: "On the mountain near a farm called Maes y Tyddin Ucha, are two stones mentioned by Camden, on one of which is this inscription yet perfect 'Amillin Tavisatoc.' Lately a farmer's son, a blockhead, in the neighbourhood, to prove the mettle of his horses attached a chain to this stone, dislodged it, and it now remains at its length. It was reported he intended to break it up for building, perhaps a pig styer!"

7. *Y Brython*, vol. iv (1861), p. 325, Notes on the Antiquities of the Vale of Clwyd from the MS. of Edward Charles: "I have been to this stone [The Bedd Emlyn Stone] scores of times when I was a boy, and as far as I remember it is about two yards long and a yard wide each way. . . . There are on this stone letters, only they are decayed so that scarcely anyone can recognise them now. Many able men have been inspecting it, but I never heard what their signification was. This stone is on the top of a hillock or small round mound, which looks as if it had been made by men, it being so round and compact. The stone has slipped, I presume, from the position in which it was first placed, and is at present leaning and awkward. We still call this part of the mountain and the surroundings *Maen y Beddau*."

Visited July, 1917, and July 8, 1924.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1855, p. 115; 1898, pp. 373-77: *Inventory*, Nos. 115A and 372, pp. 37, 109.]

ALLEGED RIFLED CAIRN: NEAR BEDD EMLYN.

Forty paces E. of Bedd Emlyn on the slope of the hillock is a large excavated hole about 14 paces long and 4 ft. deep. This is described in the Denbighshire *Inventory* of Ancient Monuments (No. 116, p. 37) as a rifled carnedd. The present writer, who examined the site in July of 1917 and of 1924, is unable to corroborate the Commissioners' opinion. There is nothing at the spot indicated to suggest that a cairn ever stood there. The site, which is an unlikely one for a carnedd, is probably an old gravel pit.

CIRCLES: CLOCAENOG MOOR.

I.

SITE. This site is 250 paces s.w. of Bedd Emlyn (q.v.) on a slight rising of ground, but at a lower level than the Bedd.

[6 in. O.S. sheet. xxv, N.E.: lat. 53° 4'; long. 3° 25'.]

DESCRIPTION. The remains consist of a circular low and fairly wide bank of earth with an external circumference of 40 paces. In the bank are four fairly large stones, apparently in their original position. One of these—situate on s.w. side—somewhat resembles "Cader y Frenhines," the chair-like stone removed many years ago from Llys-y-frenhines (q.v.) to the lawn of Pool Park, Ruthin. Its dimensions are 2 × 3 × 2 ft. On one side it is coated with quartzite.

The circle just described is undoubtedly the remains of a dismantled tumulus.

Visited July, 1917, and July 8, 1924.

[*Inventory*, No. 116, pp. 37, 38.]

II.

Two hundred and fifty paces s.e. of the latter, near a little stream, some 78 paces from the fence to the s.e., is a circle containing at present seven stones, and having a diameter of 12 paces. There is one stone inside, but not in the centre.

III.

A little to the s. of No. 2 is another circle, 10 or 11 paces in diameter, with five stones in the periphery.

IV.

Three hundred yards to the s.w. of No. 1, near a wire fence, is a small circle, 5 paces across, consisting of a ring of 12 biggish stones.

[6 in. O.S. xxv, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 52''$; long. $3^{\circ} 25' 9''$.]

V.

Some 350 yds. to the s.s.w. of No. 2, and 215 paces from the fence and track to the s.w. and 22 from that to the n., on the slope, is another circle, 48 paces in circumference. There are 13 or 14 stones in the periphery placed at irregular intervals, with a fairly big gap on the s. side. Several of the stones stand erect, there being, for instance, three close together on the n. side. Near the centre is a good-sized boulder.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxv, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 43''$; long. $3^{\circ} 25' 17''$.]

VI.

A little to the s. of the last is apparently a large circle composed of seven or eight stones.

Seen July 8, 1924.

DESTROYED CAIRNS: HAFOTY HENDRE.

In Cae Isaf, the second field to the s.w. of Hafoty Hendre house ($5\frac{1}{4}$ m. w.s.w. of Clocaenog Church), there were formerly two or three heaps of stones, the remains apparently of cairns. About 1865, in removing these preparatory to cultivating the field, which had recently been fenced in out of the moor, Mr. Griffith Jones, the tenant (died 1921, aged 84), noticed in one a cist, inside which were ashes. In another he found a nether quern stone a little over a foot in diameter. This he afterwards presented to the late Mr. Hugh Lloyd, of Rhiw Goch and Maes yr Odyn, Llanfihangel G.M. Repeated inquiries have failed to elicit information as to its present whereabouts. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxv, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 53''$; long. $3^{\circ} 29' 23''$.]

Field visited Aug., 1916, and Dec. 20, 1928.

HUT CIRCLES: MOEL Y FRON, BRYN GWRGI.

Moel y Fron is a small round hill $\frac{1}{2}$ m. E.N.E. of Bryn Gwrgi, to which farm it belongs ($5\frac{1}{2}$ m. W.S.W. of Clocaenog Church). On the brow of the hill, facing S.W., are several hut circles, three of which measure about 10, 12, and 18 paces across respectively. They are enclosed by low banks composed of small stones mixed with soil. Elevation: above contour line 1,000.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxv, S.W.: lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 44''$; long. $3^{\circ} 29' 10''$.]

Seen in Aug., 1916, and Dec. 20, 1928.

HUT CIRCLES: HAFOTY HENDRE.

A series of huts, now almost obliterated, is to be seen on the moor, about 300 yds. very slightly N. of E. of Hafoty Hendre house, and 20 yds. E. of the S.E. angle of the field called Hirdir. The diameter of one is 9 paces, of another 7, and of a third 12. The entrance of one was apparently on the E. side. Elevation: above contour line 1,250.

[Sheet xxv., N.W.: lat. $53^{\circ} 3'$; long. $3^{\circ} 29' 3''$.]

Visited Aug., 1916, and Dec. 20, 1928.

ANCIENT VILLAGE: CEFN BANNOG.

SITE. The position of this "village" is on an uncultivated tract of land overgrown with bracken and heather, a little over $\frac{1}{4}$ m. to the W. of Cefn Bannog house, and just to the W. of the mountain track that leads from the Ruthin and Cerrig road. Cefn Bannog is $4\frac{1}{4}$ m. W.S.W. of Clocaenog Church. Owner, Lord Bagot; tenant, Mr. Thos. Williams, Pengraig Fawr.

[6 in. O.S. sheet, xxv, S.E.: lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 45''-51''$; long. $3^{\circ} 27' 50''-3^{\circ} 28'$.]

DESCRIPTION. The remains here designated a "village" consist of several circles, some perfect and some imperfect, formed by low banks composed of soil and stone, varying in size. The westernmost, which is 134 paces S.W. of the track at the point where the path to Cefn Bannog, etc., branches off, is 15 paces across. Several biggish stones, one of which stands upright, fringe the outside. Just below is what may possibly be a hearth. Sixty-four paces to the E. is the bank apparently of a large circle, some 120 paces across, from which roadmen have recently (1924) carried away stones. Forty paces further E. are traces of huts, and 27 paces still further E. is a well-preserved circle, 12 paces across. Between this and the track are traces of others. All except the westernmost circle seem to be contained within the large circle, which is at present imperfect.

Visited July 8 and Oct. 23, 1924.

QUADRILATERAL ENCLOSURE: LODGE UCHAF.

SITE. This is situated about 300 paces to the N.E. of Lodge Uchaf, on uncultivated land, about a mile W. of Pont Petryal.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxv, N.E.: lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 58''$; long. $3^{\circ} 27'$.]

DESCRIPTION. The remains here referred to consist of a quadrilateral bank, about 2 yds. across and 1 ft. high, with a slight ditch outside, enclosing an area 18 by 20 paces. There is no break in the bank, which is composed of soil with a few biggish stones at the N.W. corner.

The date and purpose are unknown.

Seen Oct. 23, 1924.

SPINDLE WHORL : CHURCHYARD.

In the Catalogue of the Temporary Museum, Carmarthen Meeting, 1875 (*Arch. Camb.*, 1875, p. 415), appears the following item :—" A spindle-whorl of clay, ornamented with small circles, found in the churchyard of Clocaenog, Denbighshire." Nothing further is known about it.

[*Inventory*, No. 121, p. 39.]

CYFFYLLIOG.

CAIRN : BANCIAU TY UCHAF.

SITE. This stands about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. to the N.N.W. of Isgaer Wen farmstead on Banciau Ty Uchaf, some 290 paces S.W. of the gate at the N.E. angle in the enclosing fence.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xviii, S.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 52''$; long. $3^{\circ} 30' 13''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This cairn is small, measuring about 18 paces in circumference and $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height, and composed of biggish stones with some soil intermixed. There is no evidence of disturbance. A shallow trench surrounds it. Possibly it is not ancient. Elevation : above contour line 1,500. It is called " Carnedd Bach."

Seen July 2, 1928.

REMAINS OF CAIRN : Y FOEL GOCH.

SITE. This is situated on, or close to, the boundary line between the parishes of Cyffylliog and Llanrhaiadr, near the highest point (called " Y Foel Goch " [1,703 ft.]) of Marial or Marian Gwyn, a little less than 1 m. N.N.E. of Isgaer Wen farmstead, but belonging to Hafoty Wen. The cairn stands on the edge of a declivity. The site is 4 m. W.S.W. of Cyffylliog village.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xviii, S.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 5' 18''$; long. $3^{\circ} 29' 39''$.]

DESCRIPTION. Most of the stones which composed the cairn have been removed, some of them possibly to build the shooting box (enlarged about 1880) that is situated $\frac{1}{4}$ m. to the N.E. A modern heap of largish stones has been erected on the site. The circumference is apparently about 36 paces, and the present height, 2 ft. or so. Heather grows over the remains.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. The Foel Goch cairn is mentioned as a land-mark in the Survey of the Lordship of Denbigh (1737), which gives a detailed perambulation of the boundaries of the Lordship.

The Survey was published by the Rev. [now Chancellor] J. Fisher, in *Arch. Camb.*, 1914, pp. 421-40. In the Survey the cairn is called "Carnedd Gwas Ddewin" (The Cairn of the Soothsayer's Servant). The passage in point runs thus: "... Then [i.e. from Havod Lom's lands] the bounderye turns on the right hand up from Breinig [Brennig River] along a small rivulett as falls into it Called Nant yr aber fraith and up the s^d rivulett by Ty yn y Nant to the Mountain and from thence up the said rivulett along and in the Mountain to the place where it first rises and from thence up to a Mark Stone . . . and up by severall Mark Stones takeing in on the right hand a placed Called pañwl Cil Ddeynydd and quite up to a Mark Stone Called Carreg lŵyd on the Top of Brynie Duon and from thence along the Tip Top or Ridge of the Mountain quite to the Top of Carnedd gwas Ddewin where there is a Heap of Stones set up and from thence along a small path on the upermost top of the Mountain to Cors aber terfyn. . . ."

Seen July 2, 1928.

? TUMULUS: Y FOEL GOCH.

About 1,000 ft. w. of the Foel Goch cairn is a small mound which in all probability is a tumulus and not an old shooting butt. It was found impossible on a mountain devoid of land-marks to arrive at the exact position. The circumference is 15 paces, and height 1 ft. It is made of soil and covered with turf, the ground all around being heath. Midway between the base and the summit is a depressed ring surrounding the mound. Elevation: above contour line 1,500.

Seen July 2, 1928.

TUMULUS: CORS CESYG.

SITE. The position of this is immediately to the w. of Cors Cesyg, between $\frac{3}{4}$ and 1 m. w.s.w. of Nilig farmstead, some 50 yds. s. of the track leading to Isgaer Wen.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xviii, s.w.: lat. 53° 4' 43"; long. 3° 28' 32".]

DESCRIPTION. This is composed of soil and covered with heather. The circumference is about 31 paces, and height 2 ft. There is a circular depression in the centre, and traces of a cutting therefrom to the margin on the E. side. There are a few good-sized stones exposed in the centre, and near the margin are to be noticed several protruding, which may indicate the presence of a circle. Elevation: above contour line 1,250.

Seen July 2, 1928.

CAIRNS: Y FOEL FRECH.

I.

SITE. One of these cairns is a mile w.s.w. of Nilig on the N. slope of Foel Frech, some 500 yds. s. of the track from Nilig to Isgaer Wen, and about 500 yds. E. of the track leading from the latter to Talycefn Uchaf and Isaf.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxv, N.W.: lat. 53° 4' 31"; long. 3° 28' 31".]

DESCRIPTION. It is 37 paces in circumference, but at present only about $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height, a great quantity of the stones having been removed. There is a hole in the centre, where sheep take shelter, but no trace of a cist.

II.

A hundred yards to the N. of No. 1 are the remains of a sheep fold or shelter, which seems to have been built out of the stones of a cairn, and on its site. The circumference would be about 40 paces.

III.

SITE. Some 300 yds. s. of No. 1, a little to the s.w. of the summit of Foel Frech (1,483 ft.), is another cairn.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxv, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 25''$; long. $3^{\circ} 28' 31''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This was originally a very fine cairn, about 80 paces round at the base. A great part of the stones has been used to erect a sheep shelter on its E. side. The western portion of the cairn, however, is more or less intact.

IV.

SITE. Another stands on a small eminence about $\frac{3}{8}$ m. to the s.w. of Nilig farm.

DESCRIPTION. It is about 70 paces round, and 2 or 3 ft. high, and composed of stones, some of which have been thrown down.

V.

About $\frac{3}{4}$ m. s.w. of Nilig, just to the s. of the path to Talycefn Uchaf, where it is joined by another, are the remains of a cairn about 40 paces in circumference. The interior is strewn with stones, especially the s.w. part.

The above were seen June 16, 1924.

VI.

About 200 yds. farther to the s.w. on the same side of the path are the remains of another cairn, or a hut circle, some 42 paces in circumference. On the s.e. side is a gap like an entrance into the interior.

VII.

Half a mile or so further still to the s.w., and about 100 yds. s. of the track to Talycefn Uchaf, is another disrupted cairn (or hut circle ?) measuring 30 paces in circumference.

SMALL CAIRNS.

On the s.e. slopes of Moel Frech, a mile or so to the s.w. of Nilig farm, are to be seen a large number of small mounds, composed for the most part of stones. They are not arranged in any particular order, but are scattered about at varying intervals over a fairly extensive area. In circumference they vary between 20 and 30 paces and are a foot or a foot-and-a-half in height.

Seen July 10, 1923.

CIRCLES: CAPEL HIRAETHOG.

I (CAIRN CIRCLE).

SITE. One of these is about 150 paces to the s.w. of Capel Hiraethog—a Calvinistic Chapel, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. s.w. of Cyffylliog village—on the moor, some 16 paces s. of the track leading to Nilig farm.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xviii, s.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 48''$; long. $3^{\circ} 26' 20''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This circle consists of a circular bank of soil, about 58 paces in circumference (outside), and from 2 to 3 ft. in height. The area in 1917 was more or less devoid of vegetation (which has been growing since) and thickly strewn with small stones. In the centre is a little mound 4 paces across. On the exterior slope of the bank, on the w. side, are six or seven holes at intervals of about 5 ft., out of which large stones have been removed. In June, 1917, there remained one *in situ* but made ready for removal. By July, 1922, it was gone.

DESTRUCTION. The writer was informed by Mr. Jones, of Nilig, and Mr. Davies, of Cruglas (died 1927), that many scores of loads of stone have from time to time been carted away for road metal from the bank and the interior area. Stones are still left in the floor of the latter. A gap for carts has been made in the bank on the n.n.e. side.

The local conjecture that this circle is an old cockpit is absolutely devoid of foundation. It is undoubtedly a "cairn circle."

Visited June, 1917, July 19, 1922, and June 16, 1924.

[*Inventory*, No. 208, p. 66, where the latitude and longitude of Circle No. III are given, together with its distance from the chapel.]

II (EARTH CIRCLE).

SITE. This is to be seen on the opposite, that is n., side of the track from Capel Hiraethog to Nilig, a few yards nearer the chapel than No. 1.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xviii, s.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 50''$; long. $3^{\circ} 26' 19''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This is a larger circle, being 98 paces in circumference. The bank of earth, in which stones are embedded, is not very pronounced, being not a foot in height. The site is covered with heather. Three stones had recently (1922) been removed from the bank, probably by road men. The track to Nilig cuts off a small segment of the circle.

Seen July 19, 1922, and June 16, 1924.

III (STONE CIRCLE).

SITE. The position of this is about 570 yds. to the s.w. of Hiraethog Chapel, and 26 paces to the w. of the track to Cruglas farm at the point where it branches off from that leading to Nilig farm. The land belongs to Maes Cadarn farm.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xviii, s.e. : lat. $33^{\circ} 4' 43''$; long. $3^{\circ} 26' 39''$.]

DESCRIPTION. Up to 1919 or thereabouts this circle, which measures about 64 paces in circumference outside, consisted of 18 or 19 fairly large stones, which were partly embedded in the ground at short but not quite regular intervals. There was no embankment

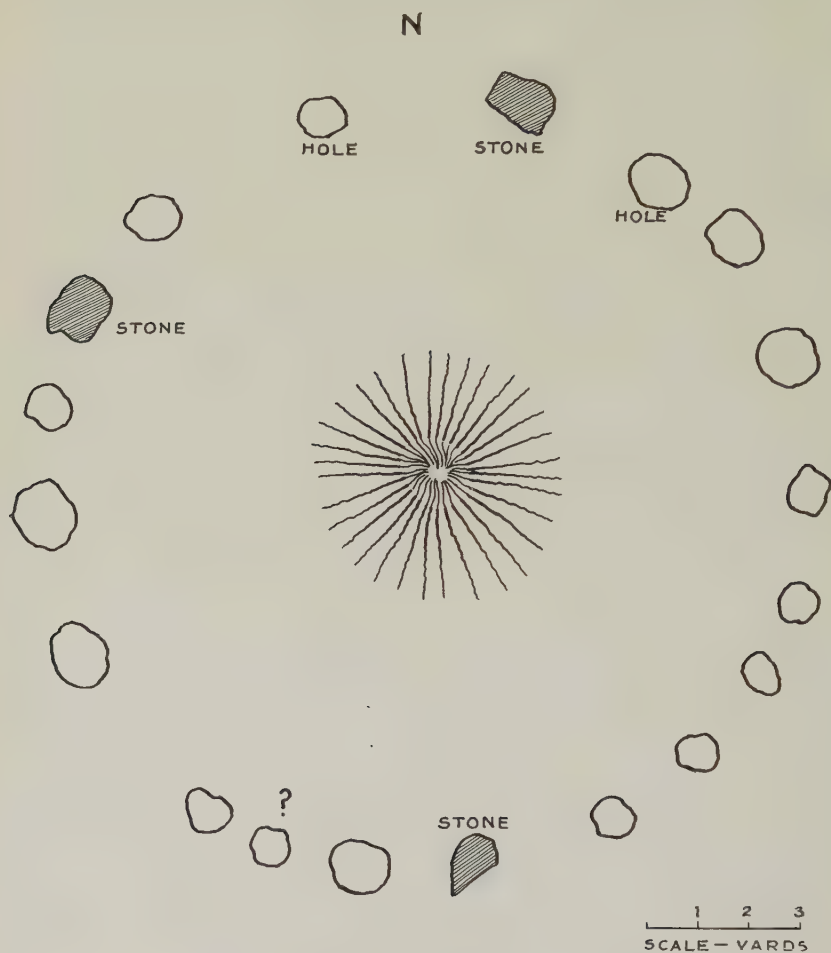


FIG. 23—CAPEL HIRAETHOG STONE CIRCLE.

of any sort. In the centre is a small mound, 32 paces round at the base and $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. high. A bowl-shaped depression, 5 ft. across, has at some time or other been made at the summit.

DESTRUCTION. Since the year mentioned above, 15 or 16 of the stones have been removed by roadmen and destroyed, which is most regrettable, as this was probably the finest stone circle in the county. The holes where the stones stood looked fresh when the writer visited the spot, July 10, 1923. The three remaining stones are roughly 3, 4, and 5 ft. across.

Seen July 10, 1923, and June 16, 1924.

CIRCLE : HAFOTY WEN.

SITE. The circle in question is situated some 780 yds. to the N. of Hafoty Wen farmstead, in the centre of a large field. A path leading from the farm-house goes through the middle of the circle from S. to N. Hafoty Wen is $6\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.W. of Cyffylliog village and 3 m. N.N.E. of Cerrig-y-drudion village.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxv, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 13''$; long. $3^{\circ} 31' 42''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The circle is a fine one, measuring in diameter over all 40 paces from N. to S. and 50 paces from E. to W., and in circumference, outside, 164 paces. It is enclosed by a bank of stones and earth, 6 ft. in width on an average and ranging from 2 ft. to 4 ft. in height. Outside the bank is a shallow ditch. The inside area, which is somewhat uneven, contains many stones under the turf, and has never been ploughed. A slightly curved bank crosses the circle from N. to S. at about 20 yds. from the westernmost point, forming a crescent-shaped division. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. On Nov. 30, 1927, the writer noticed the following reference to the circle by E. L. Barnwell in *Arch. Camb.*, 1859, p. 129 :—"Near Hafodty-wen the remains of a large circle exist."

Seen June 30, 1926.

STONE CIRCLES : Y FOEL FRECH.

I.

SITE. This is situated a few yards to the N.E. of a sheep-shelter that has been erected just to the S.W. of the highest point (1,483 ft.) of Foel Frech.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxv, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 25''$; long. $3^{\circ} 28' 30''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The circle is 45 paces round outside, and has eight fairly large stones at the following distances from each other :— $7 + 6 + 8 + 6 + 5 + 4 + 4 + 4$ paces. Two or three of the stones are at present covered by heather. At the centre is a small pile of stones.

Seen June 16, 1924.

II.

SITE. This is $\frac{3}{4}$ m. E. of Isgaer Wen, close to the track from Nilig, 100 paces W. of the path that leads from the latter track to Hafoty.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxv, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 40''$; long. $3^{\circ} 28' 50''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The circumference is 64 paces. Nearly all the stones of the circle, which were not very large, have unfortunately been removed at no distant date, presumably for road metal. The holes where they had lain looked quite fresh when visited June 16, 1924.

REMAINS OF AN ENCLOSURE: SWCH ISGAER WEN.

SITE. These remains are situated about 800 yds. N.N.E. of Hafoty Wen farmstead, on level ground in a sheltered position at the foot of a declivity on a mountain enclosure known as Swch Isgaer Wen.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxv, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 10''$; long. $3^{\circ} 31' 21''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The remains in question consist of a bank of fairly large stones partly covered with soil and turf, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. wide and 1 ft. high, resembling a donkey's shoe in shape, with the N.W. side open. The area inside is about 6 yds. broad and 7 or 8 yds. long.

An old path passes through the site.

Seen June 7, 1927.

QUADRILATERAL ENCLOSURE AND CAIRN: PINCYN LLYS.

SITE. Pincyn Llys is the name usually given to the mountain (1,354 ft. high) between Cyffylliog and Clocaenog villages, on which the Bagot monument stands.*

I (QUADRILATERAL ENCLOSURE).

DESCRIPTION. This consists of a low bank and moat enclosing a small square area about 16 yds. across. The Bagot memorial stands inside this area, not in the centre, but at the S.E. corner, where the bank has almost disappeared.

The enclosure is evidently older than the monument, but when, and for what purpose, it was constructed is not known.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xix, S.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 5'$; long. $3^{\circ} 23' 47''$.]

NAME OF ENCLOSURE. This earthwork is "Llys y Frenhines" (The Queen's Court), the site from which "Cadair y Frenhines" (The Queen's Chair)—a stone resembling a chair in form—was removed early in the last century—possibly when the monument was erected—by the then Lord Bagot, and placed on the lawn of his residence, Pool Park, near Ruthin (*Arch. Camb.*, 1854, p. 240). "Llys" in "Pincyn Llys" no doubt has reference to the enclosure. "Pincyn," applied to the monument, is apparently a local variant of *pigyn* (diminutive of *pig*, "peak" or "beak"), meaning "a point, nip, tip." So "Pincyn Llys," i.e. Pincyn y Llys, signifies "The Nip of the Court."

PREVIOUS REFERENCES. 1. In the Report of the Ruthin Meeting of the *Cambrian Archaeological Association* in 1854 (*Arch. Camb.*, 1854, p. 240) the following appears:—"The party in returning [from Clocaenog moor] examined the quadrangular entrenchment

* On this monument is the inscription :

AS A MEMORIAL
OF HIS HAVING COMPLETED
THE LARGE RANGE
OF MOUNTAIN PLANTATIONS
WHICH IN PART
SKIRT THE BASE OF THIS HILL
WILLIAM, SECOND LORD BAGOT
ERECTED THIS PILE OF STONES
IN THE YEAR 1830.

called *Llys y frenhines*. It was placed on an elevated part of the moor, commanding a magnificent view of the Vale of Clwyd and Clwydian hills on the east, and of Merionethshire and Carnarvonshire mountains on the west."

2. In *Arch. Camb.* for 1855, p. 268, the Rev. H. Longueville Jones describes *Llys y Frenhines* as "an inclosure on the summit of a hill one mile and a half west from Clocaenog."

3 The following account of the site is given from the MS. of Edward Charles in the Welsh publication, "Y Brython," vol. iv (1861), p. 326, but evidently written long before 1861:—"About $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. from the place where the stone is which I mentioned [Bedd Emlyn], towards the N., there is a fairly high mountain ridge, called *Llug Fynydd*, the highest point of which bears the name *Pen Llys y Frenines*. I have been here several times. There is no sign of a wall in sight, nor are there any stones on the surface of the ground, but there is a kind of quadrangular bank to be seen, very much like the foundation of a building. . . . *Pen Llys y Frenines* commands a view of almost the whole country around, especially the Vale of Clwyd . . . and the sea at Abergeleu and Rhuddlan [Rhyl]. Places about 20 miles distant can be clearly seen."

II (CAIRN).

Seventy-two paces to the N.W. of the monument are the remains of a small cairn covered with turf. The present dimensions are: circumference, 26 paces; height, 1 ft.

The *Inventory*, which does not mention the quadrilateral earthwork (No. 1 above), describes "*Llys y Frenhines*" (see p. 66, No. 209) as "a circular bank of earth and stones, the diameter of the circle 22 feet, the bank from 12 to 15 inches high. The situation of the circle is 65 yards north-west of the Bagot memorial pile. . . ." At the spot indicated, however, there is no circle. The site intended is probably the one just described.

Visited June, 1917, and Sept. 16, 1924.

PEN YR ORSEDD.

Pen yr Orsedd, formerly a cottage, and now the field [No. 222 in Tithe Schedule] where the foundations remain, is about $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.W. of Cyffylliog and $\frac{1}{3}$ m. S.S.W. of Cae Gwyn, to which farm it belongs. The name suggests the existence of a tumulus, but the writer could find no trace of one at or around the spot.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xviii, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 5' 34''$; long. $3^{\circ} 25' 18''$.]

Inspected July 10, 1923.

CAE'R GARNEDD.

This is a field on Pistyll Gwyn farm, about a mile and half E.S.E. of Cyffylliog Parish Church [No. 71 in Tithe Schedule]. There is at present no *carnedd* in the field.

Inspected July 19, 1922.

ALLEGED CAMP : CAER FORWYN.

REFERENCE. Edward Lhuyd, in Bishop Gibson's edition of Camden's *Britannia* (1695), p. 686, after describing Caer Ddunod (q.v.), continues: "On the other side of the river [Alwen, which divides Llanfihangel G.M. from Cyffylliog] is a steep hill about twice the height of this [i.e. Caer Ddunod hill] on which is Kaer Forwyn . . . a large circular intrenchment much more artificial than the other" [4th ed. 1772, vol. ii, p. 67]. Archdeacon Evans, in his MS. History of Pentrevoelas and district, repeats the above word for word.

Lhuyd's description is evidently based on the following account of Caer Forwyn by the Rev. J. Lloyd, Warden of Ruthin (1682-1713), given in an undated letter written to Lhuyd [*Ashmole MS.*, 1929, p. 171: Bodleian Library, Oxford]: "On ye other side of ye river [i.e. Alwen] rises a steeper hill abt half ye height of yt w^{ch} looks to Lhanberis, and about twice ye height of this Caer-ddynod, on w^{ch} lies Caer Forwyn, a larger circle and more like ye footsteps of a fortification as I understood by my guide, but my Playday was so far spent yt I could not go to see it."

J. Lloyd makes further reference to the matter in an undated letter to Ed. Lhuyd, contained in *Ashmole MS.*, 1830, fol. 261: ". . . I told you before hand not to lay any stress upon my informations because I took y^m upon trust f^m others. . . . And for Caer Forwyn particularly I confess'd yt I had but my Guide's authority for it, a poor illiterate shepherd. I question whether any such place can be seen."

THE SITE. On the hill in question, correctly described as steep and about twice the height of Caer Ddunod hill, no trace whatsoever of a camp of any description can be detected. As J. Lloyd surmised, the information communicated by his guide was unreliable. The name "Caer Forwyn" does not seem to be known in the district.

The spot was inspected in 1917 and June 8, 1927.

BRONZE DAGGER : NILIG.

PRESENT LOCATION. This was presented as part of the Sir J. Evans's Collection of bronze and stone implements to the Ashmolean Museum in 1927 by Sir Arthur J. Evans. It bears the inscription: "Cyffylliog, Ruthin, 20 ft. peat, 1834. E. L. B. to W. G. Smith." Its museum number is 2358.

DESCRIPTION. It is described in the Museum Catalogue as follows:—"Dagger, bronze, brown patina, thin narrow blade with marked narrow midrib; wide tang with rounded end and 2 rivet holes. L. .150 [6 in.], W. .031 [1¼ in.], T. .005 [¼ in.]." For illustration, see p. 83.

PROVENANCE. There can be no doubt that the Cyffylliog dagger referred to above is that exhibited at various Annual Meetings of the Cambrian Archaeological Association. In the Catalogue of the temporary museum held in connection with the visit of the Association

to the town of Ruthin and district, it is thus described: "Bronze dagger, found at Cyffylliog in 1847.—James Jones [exhibitor]." See *Arch. Camb.*, 1854, p. 252. In the list of antiquities exhibited at the Llandeilo Meeting (1855) the place of discovery is more definitely given as Nilig: "Bronze dagger, in perfect condition but without the rivets. Found in the peat at Niwlig, in the parish of Cyffylliog near Ruthin" (*Arch. Camb.*, 1855, p. 310). The Catalogue of the Exhibition held in connection with the Bangor Meeting (1860) may be compared: "Bronze dagger, found several feet deep in the turf at Nielig (*sic*) in the parish of Cyffylliog." The exhibitor at the meetings held at Llandeilo, Monmouth (1857), Bangor, etc., was the Rev. E. L. Barnwell, of the Ruthin School, who no doubt acquired the dagger from the finder or Mr. James Jones and presented it to Mr. Worthington G. Smith, who, in his turn, gave it to Sir J. Evans.

Nilig farm is situated on the moor about 3 m. s.w. of Cyffylliog Church.

Seen at the Ashmolean Museum June 26, 1928.

SPINDLE WHORL: NILIG.

DISCOVERY. This was found in the spring of 1924 by Iorwerth Hughes (Ty Capel Hiraethog) while spreading a mole heap in a field called Bryniau, the third to the N.E. of Nilig house.

DESCRIPTION. The whorl is a small one, being 1 in. across and $\frac{3}{8}$ in. deep. The diameter of the perforation, which is uniform, is nearly $\frac{3}{8}$ in. On the outside, which is rounded, is a series of 14 concentric circles in two rows. At the centre of each series, most of which consist of three circles, the rest two, is a well-defined puncture from which the circles were described.

PRESENT LOCATION. The whorl was given to the writer June 16, 1924.

DENBIGH.

ARTIFICIAL MOUND: NEAR HOWELL'S SCHOOL.

SITE. This is situate in the field known as Bryn Park, between the Goblin Tower of the Castle and the Sanatorium of Howell's School, close to a public footpath.

DESCRIPTION. The mound, turf covered, is about 97 paces round and 5 ft. high. It is evidently artificial but not quite regular in shape. Without excavating it is impossible to say whether it is a tumulus or a structure that had some connection with the Castle, or with the crescent-shaped siege bank thrown up round the base of the Goblin Tower in 1648. [See *Y Cymmrodor*, vol. xxxvi (1926): Paper on *Denbigh Castle*, by W. J. Hemp, pp. 80–1.]

Seen Sept. 11, 1923, and Ap. 15, 1924.

DERWEN.**REMAINS OF CAIRN : GARW FYNYYDD.**

SITE. This is situated about 250 yds. to the n.w. of Garw Fynydd farmstead, in a field, the second from the house, called Ffridd Fawr, No. 490 in the Tithe map. Garw Fynydd is 1 m. slightly n. of w. of Derwen Church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxv, s.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 51''$; long. $3^{\circ} 24' 44''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The bulk of the stones of the cairn have been carried away, presumably to build the field walls to be seen around, the lower part only, some 2 ft. to $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. high, remaining. Turf has grown over the site, but stones are here and there exposed to view. The circumference is about 70 paces. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

Seen July 13, 1927.

LARGE CIRCLES : "CAERAU."

SITE. These are on the moor a little less than $\frac{3}{4}$ m. to the n.e. of Pont Petryal—a bridge over the River Clwyd on the Ruthin and Cerrig road. They are marked on the Ordnance maps and called "Caerau" (forts).

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxv, n.e. : (1) lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 30''$; long. $3^{\circ} 25' 35''$; (2) lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 29''$; long. $3^{\circ} 25' 41''$.]

DESCRIPTION. I. The more eastern and northern of the two, which is the larger, measures about 50 paces in diameter. The bank enclosing the circle is low and fairly broad, and composed of soil and stones.

II. This is about 100 yds. w.s.w. of No. 1. It has a diameter of about 46 paces. The enclosing bank is about 4 paces wide. At the s. end are several small hut-circles.

Seen July 8 and Aug. 7, 1924.

ARTIFICIAL MOUND—COCK-PIT (?) : CEFN MAWR.

In the second field to the s.s.e. of the farmstead of Cefn Mawr, on a slope near the w. corner [6 in. O.S. sheet xxvi, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 37''$; long. $3^{\circ} 23' 55''$] stands a round artificial mound, about 42 paces in circumference and 2 ft. in height, with a large hollow in the centre. The free-holder of the farm, Mr. J. Jones, informed the writer, March 24, 1927, that his grandfather, John Williams, who took the farm in 1859, was told at the time that the site in question had been used as a cock-pit. It was Williams who partly filled the inside area.

Seen March 24, 1927.

BRONZE DAGGER : GLAN GORS.

About the year 1902, while Abel Williams was engaged in digging a drain near the present house of Glan Gors, which was not then built [6 in. O.S. sheet xxv, n.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 14''$; long. $3^{\circ} 25' 9''$], a bronze

dagger was discovered by his employer, Mr. John Williams, in the peat about $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. below the surface of the ground. Glan Gors lies about a mile N.W. of Derwen Church. What became of the dagger is not known. The son of the finder, Mr. Aneurin Williams, of Pwll Glas, Ruthin, informed the writer, Aug. 30, 1927, that he never heard of the find. Information of the discovery was obtained from Abel Williams, July 13, 1927.

ROMAN COINS: PYLLAU PERL.

REFERENCE. The following account of the discovery of these coins appears in the Welsh periodical, *Y Brython*, for 1861 (p. 326), under the heading "Hynafion [Antiquities of] Dyffryn Clwyd," from the MS. of Edward Charles*:—"The house and holding next to Ffynnon Sara is called Pyllau Perl. I well remember men in digging in a field close to this place coming upon a large number of coins of the size of sixpences. Owing to their rusted condition it was impossible to tell what letters or image they bore. The man who lived at Pyllau Perl had the money, because this place and Ffynnon Sara were freehold land." [Translated.]

SITE. Pyllau Perl is situated about $\frac{3}{4}$ m. N.W. of Derwen Parish Church and $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.W. of Ffynnon Sara.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvi, N.W.; lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 4''$; long. $3^{\circ} 23' 54''$.]

PRESENT LOCATION. What became of the coins, which were, judging from the description of them as of the size of sixpences, Roman third brasses or possibly denarii (silver), is not known.

EFENECHTYD.

TUMULUS: PERTHI.

SITE. This stands in a field immediately to the E. of the main road from Ruthin to Cerrig-y-drudion, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. of Clawdd Newydd. The field, which is now divided by a wire fence, is the one just to the S. of Perthi house, to which it belongs; tenant, Mr. Denis Parkinson. The tumulus is 30 paces or so from the S.W. corner of the field.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvi, N.W.: lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 36.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 20' 54''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The dimensions of the tumulus proper, which seems to have been raised on a circular elevation, are: circumference, about 100 paces, and height, about 3 ft. It is composed of soil and covered with turf. It has not been subjected to any disturbance other than cultivation. When the field was ploughed in the spring of 1926 a cartload or more of boulders were removed from the centre of the tumulus. The stones, which were within a foot of the surface, were a foot and a half in depth. Elevation: above contour line 800.

Seen July 29, 1925, and Ap. 13, 1926.

* Edward Charles was a native of Clocaenog. He died in 1828 in London, where he spent most of his life. He was a bard, and in 1796 became secretary to the "Cymdeithas y Gwyneddigion" (Society of North Walians).—*Llyfryddiaeth y Cymry*, p. 723.

CAMP: PEN Y GAER.

SITE. This camp—Pen y Gaer—is situated on an eminence, 778 ft. above Ordnance datum, known as “Y Gopa,” $\frac{3}{4}$ m. to the s.s.w. of the parish church. It belongs to Pen y Gaer farm, which is about 100 yds. to the s.w. Owner, Mr. J. Stephen, who purchased it in 1919, when the Ruthin Castle Estate was sold. Tenant, Mr. Humphrey Williams.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xix, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 59''$; long. $3^{\circ} 30' 7''$.]



FIG. 24—PEN-Y-GAER CAMP.

DESCRIPTION. The camp, which covers an area of 6·332 acres, is defended by a single embankment varying in strength on different sides. For 100 yds. or so in the northern half of the w. side it is at present altogether wanting. On the N. side, where it is strongest, it ranges from 5 to 8 yds. in height externally, though on the inside it is not more than a yard high. On the E. side the embankment is far less formidable, while at the s.e. corner and on the s. side it is weak. Along the southern half of the w. side it is fairly high externally, but non-existent internally. No signs of a fosse can at present be detected. There are six breaks in the embankment on the E. and s. sides. The original entrance to the camp seems to have been on the s. side, where there is a gap about 10 yds. wide. The present entrance is at the s.w. corner, where there is a gap about 20 yds. in width.

The interior area, which is pasture land, rises gradually towards the centre. On the w. side the ground sharply falls away. No ancient relics are known to have been found on or near the site.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. S. Lewis, in his *Topographical Dictionary*, s.v. Ewenechtyd, writes: “On the summit of an eminence above the

village are the remains of an encampment called Pen y gaer." Cf. *Handbook for the Vale of Clwyd*, by W. Davis, p. 156.

Visited May, 1913, and July 29, 1925.

[*Inventory*, No. 147, p. 49.]

BRONZE PALSTAVE : COED MARCHAN.

This was exhibited at the Ruthin temporary museum (1854) by the Rev. H. Jones, D.D., Rector of Beaumaris (died 1866) [*Arch. Camb.*, 1854, p. 252 : "Bronze paalstaab, found at Coedmarchan"]. No further particulars are known.

BRONZE SOCKETED CELT : COED MARCHAN.

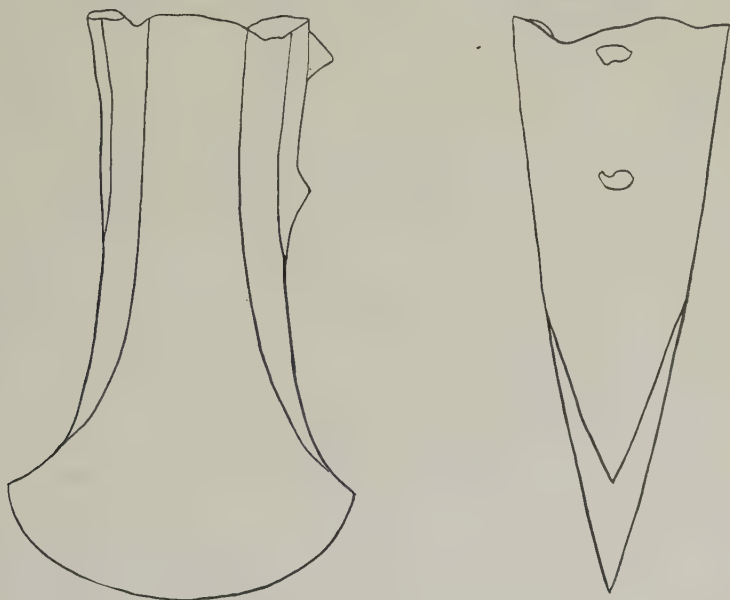


FIG. 25—SOCKETED CELT, COED MARCHAN.

PRESENT LOCATION. This is preserved at the Powysland Museum, Welshpool. On the label it is stated that it was "found in Deer Park, Coed Marchan" (see also the *Catalogue* of the Museum, 1922, p. 16). It was presented to the Museum by the Rev. E. L. Barnwell. The circumstances and the exact spot of the discovery are not known. Coed Marchan lies in the parishes of Efenechtyd and Llanfwrog Rural, within 2 m. s.s.w. of Ruthin.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES. A "bronze Celt found at Coedmarchan" was exhibited by the Rev. E. L. Barnwell in the temporary museum organised in connection with the Ruthin Meeting of the *Cambrian Archaeological Association* in 1854 (*Arch. Camb.*, 1854, p. 252). It was exhibited also at temporary museums held during the visit of the Association to Kington in 1863, and Haverfordwest in 1864.

In the catalogues of the contents of these museums in *Arch. Camb.*, 1863, p. 377, and 1864, p. 360, it is described as "Socketed celt found in the parish of Efenechtyd, near Ruthin."

DESCRIPTION. Its dimensions are : length, 3 in. ; breadth across the cutting edge, $1\frac{7}{8}$ in. ; thickness (socket), 1 in. The weight is 107·8 grms. In colour it is rich green. The loop is broken off, and the edge of the socket damaged.

Seen Oct. 27, 1921.

EGLWYS BACH.

TUMULUS : TYN TERFYN.

SITE. The Tyn Terfyn tumulus is exactly 3 m., in a straight line, s.s.e. of Eglwys Bach village, and about 440 yds. to the s.w. of the house of Tyn Terfyn, in a fenced-off portion of a moor called Ffridd Lenthall, formerly belonging to the Lenthalls, of Belmont, Llanddoget, and Bessels Leigh, near Oxford, but afterwards to Col. Sandbach (died 1928), of Hafod Unos, Llangernyw. Tenant, Mr. Pryce Owen.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xi, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 11' 1''$; long. $3^{\circ} 44' 59''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The mound, composed of soil, measures about 70 paces in circumference and 4 ft. in height. It has never been disturbed apparently. At present gorse grows on it. Elevation : above contour line 800.

Seen in 1913 and June 3, 1924.

[*Inventory*, No. 151, p. 51, where the position is not correctly given.]

TUMULUS : BRYN RHYDD.

SITE. This stands in a marshy moor called "Mynydd Mawr," belonging to Nantyrwrach Fawr, about 120 yds. to the w. of the house of Bryn Rhydd and $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. s.e. of Eglwys Bach Church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xi, s.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 10' 36''$; long. $34^{\circ} 4' 21''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The tumulus, which is composed of peaty soil and covered with heather, measures in circumference about 77 paces, and in height about $4\frac{1}{2}$ ft. A trench, a few feet deep, has been cut from the N.E. side into the centre at some time. Elevation : above contour line 700.

Seen Ap., 1913, and Aug. 1, 1923.

TUMULUS : BEDD CARROG.

SITE. This is situate in the field immediately behind (i.e. N. of) the house and garden of "The Hand" (formerly an Inn), and close to the main road, at the N. end of the village of Eglwys Bach. The name of the field is Bryn Carrog. A stream of the name of Carrog, which rises in Moel Gyffyllog, passes a few yards away from the mound. Owner and occupier, Mr. John Evans.

[6 in. O.S. sheet vi, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 13' 9''$; long. $3^{\circ} 47' 32''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The tumulus, which is a large one, being about 90 paces in circumference and 4 ft. in height, has been disturbed on the w. side, which abuts on the road. At the N.W. corner, a small

section has been removed to make room for an outbuilding belonging to a cottage that stands just at the base of the tumulus. A slight depression is noticeable at the summit. It is composed of earth and covered with turf. Elevation : above contour line 100.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES AND FOLKLORE. 1. Dr. W. O. Pughe, in his *Welsh-English Dictionary* (s.v. "Carawg"), writes : "Bedd Carawg—the grave of Carrog ; a tumulus at Eglwys Fach in Denbighshire, which, as tradition says, is the grave of a huge wild boar, killed by Bach ab Carwed, on the river Carrog."

2. The following note appears in the *Parochialia* (Edward Lhuyd), 1699, pt. i, p. 32 :—"Y Bach ap Karwyd ymma gynt a ladhodh riw bryv gwyllt oedh yn ormes mawr ymma gynt ar lan avon Karrog yn agos i'r Eglwys ymma. Karrog medhant hwy oedh enw'r prŷ ymma, a math ar vaedh gwyllt medhant hwy oedh ev. Ag wythnos gwedi marw'r prŷf ymma y trawe Bach ap Karwyd ben yr ormes ymma ai droed : ond gan iddo ev daro yn oi Skythr y Klwyvodh i droed ag y bŷ varw o[y] gwr or briw." The foregoing extract may be literally translated thus : "This Bach ap Karwyd [to whom Eglwys Bach Church has been supposed to be dedicated] slew a wild beast that was a great oppression here formerly, on the bank of the river Carrog near the Church. Karrog, they say, was the name of this beast, and a kind of wild boar, they say, it was. A week after the death of this beast Bach ap Carwyd struck the head of this oppression with his foot, but because he struck one of its tusks, his foot sickened and the man died of the hurt." Cf. *Celtic Remains* (Lewis Morris), and *Eminent Welshmen* (Robert Williams), s.v. "Bach."

Seen in 1913 and June 3, 1924.

TUMULI : MWDWL EITHIN.

SITE. These, three in number, lie on the ridge of a long heather-covered hill, the highest point of which is 1,276 ft. above the sea, a little over 2 m. in a straight line s.e. of the parish church of Eglwys Bach. The hill, which commands a very extensive view on all sides, is one of several in North Wales bearing the name "Mwdwl Eithin," that is, "A Beacon" (literally "A cock of gorse"). To this a reference is made in the *Parochialia* (Ed. Lhuyd) i, 33 : "Bŷ mwdwl eithin gynt ar vynydh y Brywnant" (There has been formerly a beacon on Brywnant mountain).

[6 in. O.S. sheet vi, s.e. : lat. 53° 11' 48–55° ; long. 3° 45' 11–13".]

DESCRIPTION.—The barrows, which lie N. and S., but not in a straight line, vary in size, the northernmost being considerably larger than the other two, which are of almost equal dimensions. The former measures about 90 paces in circumference at the base and about 9 ft. in height, and the other two about 70 paces in circumference and about 5 ft. in height. The distance between them is 150 and 60 paces respectively. They are composed of clay and peaty soil. A fence crosses the southernmost mound.

EXCAVATION. With permission of the owner of the site*, the (now late) Rev. R. J. Roberts, M.A., Hopesay Vicarage, Shropshire, the middle tumulus was excavated in the summers of 1911 and 1912,

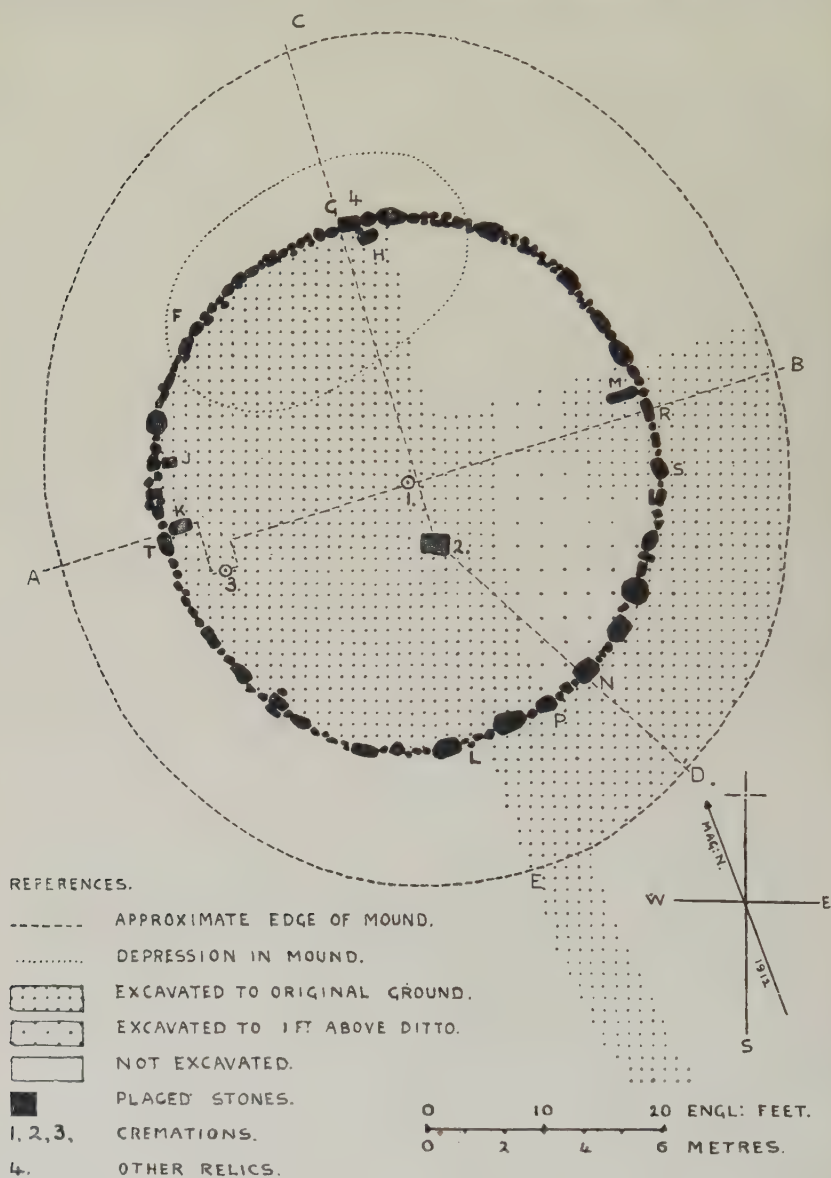


FIG. 26—PLAN OF MWDWL EITHIN TUMULUS.

under the auspices of the Nant Conwy Antiquarian Society, Mr. Willoughby Gardner carefully supervising the work. Six days altogether were devoted to the excavation (five in 1911 and one in

* Since Mr. Roberts's death, Tymawr farm, to which the mountain belongs, has been bought by the tenant, Mr. Robert Davies.

1912), when five labourers were employed. Willing assistance was also rendered by the Rev. T. Roberts, R.N., then of Llanrwst, the discoverer of the tumuli, W. B. Halhed (died 1916), then of Bryn Derwen, Llanrwst, the Rev. J. I. Farr, then Headmaster of the County School, the Rev. Ellis Davies, at the time Rector of Llanddoget, Miss Brazil, etc. Considerable interest was evinced in the novel undertaking by the inhabitants of the district, many of whom paid visits to the spot.



FIG. 27—PART OF STONE CIRCLE.

The method of excavation adopted was, first to remove the S.E. quadrant right away, and then work to the left (W.), dumping the soil on the excavated sector. At a distance of 15 ft. or so from the edge a stone circle was encountered, which was followed up and exposed all round. The quadrant having been turned over, the bulk to the original ground and the remainder to within a foot of the same, the digging henceforth was limited within the circle, the whole of the enclosed area, with the exception of a small sector on the N.E., being carefully excavated to the original surface of the ground.

Stone Circle. The circle, which was altogether covered by the mound, enclosed an area about 43 ft. in diameter. It was composed of stones of various sizes, the larger ones recurring, for the most part, at intervals of from 3 to 6 ft., between which were smaller stones, some placed horizontally one above another. At four points within the circle, flat stones were found projecting inwards from the circumference toward the interior. On the N.W. side, for about 20 ft., the structure of the circle was found to differ from that of the rest. In this part the wall contained only small stones, which rested not on

the surface of the ground, but on a deposit of clay several inches above it. Mr. Gardner was of opinion that the circle here was originally incomplete, a feature by no means peculiar to the present case, and that this rough wall was erected at a later period. The surface of the mound just over and around this part of the circle was somewhat depressed.

Primary Interment. On the floor of the tumulus, right in the centre, a deposit of calcined bones and ashes was discovered, unprotected by stones or urn, covering 18 in. by 12 in., and 2 in. thick in the centre. This would be the burial over which the mound was originally raised. No relic in the shape of a weapon was found in the deposit.

Secondary Interments. (1) Five feet to the S.E. of the centre, and 3 ft. above the floor, an urn containing incinerated bones was found in an inverted position, surrounded by stones forming a kind of cistfaen. (2) A few feet inside the stone circle on the W.S.W. side, and a foot or so above the floor of the tumulus, another unprotected deposit of ashes and calcined bones was brought to light. In this deposit "were found," to quote Mr. Willoughby Gardner, "two interesting stone implements, one a carefully worked knife, and the other a flake worked to a cutting edge, and with a point which may have been used as a borer."

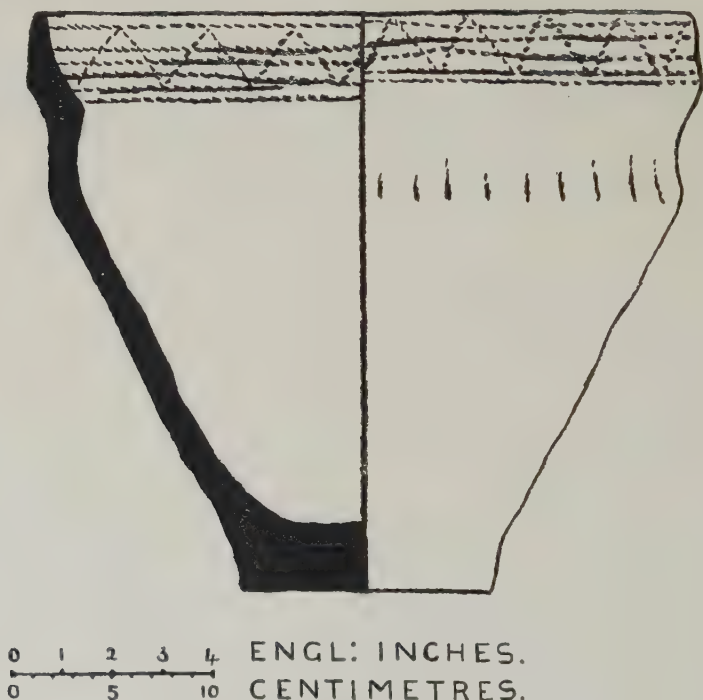


FIG. 28—URN RESTORED.

The Urn. The urn, when the enclosing stones were cleared away, was found to be badly cracked, with a part of the base knocked in.

Any attempt to take it away bodily from its place would have proved fruitless, so it was decided to remove it piecemeal. The fragments, which numbered about 200, were carefully packed up by Mr. Gardner and conveyed to his home. A strong hope was entertained that



FIG. 29—PORTIONS OF URN.

when the pieces had got hardened they could be put together and cemented. The task of restoration, however, proved quite impossible of accomplishment. Unfortunately no photograph of the urn *in situ* was taken, but Miss Brazil, of Llanbedr, made a pencil sketch.

The following is Mr. W. Gardner's description of the urn :—" This is of a rude hand-made pottery very imperfectly fired. Its fracture

shows a blackish-grey colour, shading to reddish-brown at the exterior. In shape it is an inverted truncated cone : it measures 13 in. across the rim, and 5 in. across the base. As far as could be judged from the fragments into which it unfortunately fell, it was originally $11\frac{1}{2}$ in. high. It contained over 8 quarts of ashes, etc., which did not quite fill it. It has a fairly straight rim, below which is a concave neck above a slightly projecting shoulder. The rim is bevelled to a concave surface within. The walls of the urn are comparatively thin for its size, but the base is thick. . . . The greater portion of the surface of the urn is plain, smoothed probably by rubbing with the hand. But there was some ornamentation upon it, as is usual ; this had been impressed in the soft clay by cords of twisted fibre ; it is almost confined to the rim, where it is found both externally and internally. Externally, it consists of a pattern formed by 5 or 6 irregularly horizontal lines with zig-zags or chevrons running across ; internally, the concave bevelled surface is similarly decorated, but with larger chevrons. There were also some vertical lines round the urn just above the shoulder. The interior of the urn was a smoky black from contact with hot ashes."

There is no example figured in Abercromby's *Bronze Age Pottery* exactly like this, but several of similar shape are illustrated in Plates lxiii and lxiv (vol. ii). The nearest parallels to the ornamentation are afforded by fig. 269, pl. lxxxi, and fig. 489, pl. xcvi.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1913, pp. 317-338 (Article by Mr. Willoughby Gardner).]

BEDD-Y-CANWR : BRYN BACH.

SITE. This Bedd (grave) is in the second field to the s. of the house of Bryn Bach, which is $\frac{1}{4}$ m. w. of Holland Arms, commonly known as Dafarn Newydd, an inn (formerly) on the mountain road between Llanellian and Llanrwst.

[6 in. O.S. sheet vi, s.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 13' 10''$; long. $3^{\circ} 44' 40''$.]

DESCRIPTION. At present the grave, which is in the centre of the flat and lower part of the field, is marked by a slight rise in the ground. Formerly, before the father—Moses Williams—of the present tenant, Robert Williams, carried considerable quantities of the soil from it to the more elevated part of the field where there was little depth of earth, the grave was far more pronouncedly defined. It now measures about 10 yds. by 5 yds.

TRADITION. Local tradition says that a hundred men were buried in the spot in question ; hence the name, Bedd-y-canwr.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. John Williams, in his *Records of Denbigh* (1860), p. 220, referring to Bettws-yn-Rhos, writes : " There are no antiquities here, except a tumulus, called *Bedd-y-Can-Wr*, near Frithycastell, Deheufryn, said to be raised over the remains of one hundred men slain in one of the early wars."

Visited July 2, 1918.

CAE'R GARN : LLETY.

In the Tithe Schedule, field No. 808, which lies about 150 yds. s. of the house of Llety, is called Cae'r Garn [*Inventory*, No. 157, p. 52 : 6 in. O.S. sheet vi, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 12' 50''$; long. $3^{\circ} 48' 17''$]. There is in this field, however, no cairn or remains of one. The name by which it is known to the farmer is, not Cae'r Garn, but Cae'r Garth. Twenty yards or so to the n.w. of the house are seven large stones—there used to be eight—all of which formerly lay in a straight line. Three are still *in situ*, fixed in the ground. These at one time undoubtedly formed part of some structure, but whether ancient or modern one cannot be certain.

Visited Sept. 3, 1928.

VANISHED STANDING STONES : Y GROES ONNEN.

In the *Parochialia* (1699), pt. i, p. 33, it is stated : “ Mae tair neu bedeir o gerrig ar i penne o fewn chwarter m. at y lhan a elwir Kerrig y Groes Onnen ” (There are three or four upright stones within a quarter of a mile of the Llan [Eglwys Bach] known as the Groes Onnen Stones). Y Groes Onnen is a farm in the parish about a mile to the s.s.e. of the church.

There is now no trace of the stones at or anywhere around Y Groes Onnen, and the oldest inhabitants, whom the writer consulted in 1913, had never heard of them. Further inquiries were made at the farm on June 3, 1924.

SPINDLE WHORL : BRYN DERW.

DISCOVERY. This was found about 1911 by Mr. David Rowlands, of Llanrwst, then of Y Wern, Llanddoget, in digging after rabbits in the wood to the n. of Lake Syberi, near the cottage, Bryn Derw, about a mile w.s.w. of Eglwys Bach Church.

DESCRIPTION. The whorl is made of a soft stone, and measures in diameter $1\frac{3}{4}$ in., and in thickness, which is uniform, about $\frac{1}{4}$ in. The hole in the centre is about $\frac{1}{2}$ in. across.

PRESENT LOCATION. It is now in the possession of the Rev. T. Roberts, R.N., Rhyl, late of Llanrwst.

Seen frequently.

[*Inventory*, No. 162, p. 53.]

ESCLUSHAM ABOVE DYKE.

TUMULUS : TYHIR SHEEPWALK.

SITE. This stands over $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the s.s.w. of Tyhir farmhouse, which is 2 m. s.w. of Bwlchgwyn Church, and some 70 paces w. of the point where the wall of the mountain takes a s.e. direction towards the brook, Aber Sychnant, and the sheep pens. The mountain belongs to Sir Watkin Williams Wynn.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 8''$; long. $3^{\circ} 7' 49''$ (approx.).]

DESCRIPTION. The circumference is about 30 paces, and the present height 2 ft. It is composed of earth and partly covered with heather. On the N.W. side it has undergone some disturbance. Elevation: above contour line 1,250.

Seen Feb. 27, 1928.

TUMULUS: NEAR ABER SYCHNANT.

SITE. This is situated close to the foot-path, on the N. side, about 600 yds. from the ford (to the S.W.) in Aber Sychnant, which marks the boundary between Esclusham Above and Pen-y-cae.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, S.E.: lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 38''$; long. $3^{\circ} 7' 50''$ (approx.).]

DESCRIPTION. A small tumulus about 30 paces in circumference and $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height, composed of soil and covered with heather and mountain grass. It is undisturbed. Elevation: above contour line 1,250.

Seen Feb. 27, 1928.

CAIRN: NEAR ABER SYCHNANT FORD.

SITE. This is situated about 230 paces to the N.W. of Aber Sychnant Ford, and 400 paces N. of the point where the parishes of Esclusham Above, Llangollen Rural, and Pen-y-cae meet.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, S.E.: lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 31''$; long. $3^{\circ} 8' 15''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The circumference is about 46 paces, and the present height $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. There is a large hole in the centre, in which are exposed quantities of loose stones—several of quartzite—and traces of a cist. The undisturbed parts are covered with peaty soil on which heather grows. Elevation: above contour line 1,250.

Seen Sept. 27, 1928.

CAIRNS: ABOVE NANT Y CWM MAWR.

I.

SITE. The position of this is $1\frac{3}{4}$ m. S.W. of Minera Church, on Esclusham Mountain, on the top of the ridge, just above [i.e. E. of] the ravine called Nant y Cwm Mawr.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, S.E.: lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 21''$; long. $3^{\circ} 6' 50''$ (approx.).]

DESCRIPTION. Little more than the base of this cairn remains. Inside, on the E., is a pile of stones of recent erection. The circumference is about 42 paces. The stones of this and No. 2 below are smaller than those of the Pen-y-cae cairns on the S.W. side of the ravine. Elevation: above contour line 1,500.

II.

This is 82 paces or so to the N. of No. 1. [Lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 23''$; long. $3^{\circ} 6' 50''$.] It has been dug into in several places and despoiled of a large quantity of its stones. A modern heap has been raised in the centre. The circumference is 57 paces.

Seen July 17, 1923.

* III.

SITE. This stands a little more than $\frac{3}{4}$ m. to the s.w. of Minera Church, and about 400 yds. to the n.n.w. of the Park Lead Mine, locally known as "Shafft Newydd."

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxviii, n.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 10''$; long. $3^{\circ} 6' 12''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The bulk of the stones which composed this cairn have been removed, possibly when the mine referred to above was made. The outline is still marked by a low bank of stones indicating a circumference of about 90 paces. Inside are several pockets of stones. On the e. side a gap 5 or 6 yds. wide has been made in the bank. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

Seen July 17, 1923.

[*Inventory*, No. 170, p. 55.]

ESCLUSHAM BELOW DYKE.**TUMULUS : CROES FOEL.**

SITE. This is in the field to the w., and over the road, from the farmstead of Croes Foel. It stands about 140 yds. to the n.w. of the turning to Bersham from the Ruabon and Wrexham road.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxviii, s.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 1' 33''$; long. $3^{\circ} 1' 59''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The tumulus is under turf, and intact. Its circumference is about 106 paces and its height about 5 ft. Elevation : above contour line 300.

Seen May 8, 1923.

TUMULUS : HAFOD Y BWCH.

SITE. This tumulus stands less than $\frac{1}{4}$ m. s.w. of the homestead of the most northerly of the farms bearing the name of Hafod y Bwch, just off, i.e. e. of, the path leading from the farm to the lane to Sontney.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxviii, s.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 1' 18''$; long. $3^{\circ} 1' 51''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The tumulus, which stands on slightly rising ground, is made of soil and covered with turf and a few furze-bushes. There are indications of a shallow moat round the base. Its dimensions are : height, about 9 ft. ; circumference, about 80 yds. There are signs of its having been disturbed on the n.w. side. Elevation : above contour line 300.

Visited Nov., 1916, and May 10, 1927.

[*Inventory*, No. 177, p. 56.]

ARTIFICIAL MOUND : PLAS CADWGAN.

SITE. This is situated in a field just behind the farm buildings of Plas Cadwgan or Cadwgan Hall (owner, Mrs. Fitzhugh, Plas Power), on the left-hand side of the road leading from Wrexham to Aberoer, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. s.w. of Wrexham Parish Church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 1' 52''$; long. $3^{\circ} 2' 46''$.]

DESCRIPTION. It is a large mound, partly artificial and partly natural, measuring 8 or 9 ft. in height, and about 180 paces in circumference, with possible traces of a moat around. At the s.e. corner some of the soil has been removed. On the n. slope also there is a hole about 5 yds. long, but not very deep at present. Offa's dyke runs a dozen yards or so to the w.

PURPOSE. The date and purpose of this mound are very uncertain. Dr. Cyril Fox, in his Third Report on Offa's Dyke in *Arch. Camb.* for June, 1928 (p. 93), writes: "It does not resemble a motte, nor is its position that usual for a prehistoric barrow. It may be a mill mound; but the possibility that it is a sepulchral mound of the Saxon period, contemporary with or later than Offa's Dyke, cannot be excluded."

FINDS. According to Lewis's *Topographical Dictionary* (s.v. Wrexham), there was discovered in 1804 in this mound "more than a cart-load of armour, which is now [1833] deposited in Chirk Castle." In a letter dated January 12, 1922, Lord Howard de Walden stated that he had no knowledge of the armour being at the castle.

Visited Nov., 1916, and Ap. 5, 1927.

[*Inventory*, No. 178, p. 56.]

GLYN TRAEAN (PONT FADOG).

TUMULI: YR ORSEDD WEN.

I.

SITE. Between a quarter and half-a-mile n.w. of the farmhouse bearing the name Yr Orsedd Wen, on an eminence, are the remains of an excavated tumulus. The site is less than 20 yds. n. of the w. end of a quarry, and about 350 yds. w. of Offa's Dyke. Yr Orsedd Wen farm is 1 m. w.s.w. of Selattyn Church. It belongs to the Quinta Estate, Weston Rhyn. Tenant, Mr. W. Roberts.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xlii, N.E.: lat. 52° 53' 52.5"; long. 3° 7' 8".]

DESCRIPTION. At present this tumulus, which is sharply defined, measures from 4 ft. to 5 ft. in height and about 45 paces in circumference. It is composed largely of stone, with which soil is mixed. The apex has been removed, and a crater-like depression made, on the surface of which a great quantity of stones of all sizes lie exposed. Elevation: above contour line 1,000.

EXCAVATION. Permission to excavate the tumulus having been obtained from the landlord, the Hon. F. R. West, of Ruthin Castle, digging operations commenced on March 5, 1850. There were present Mr. [afterwards Judge] W. Wynne Ffoulkes, Mr. W. W. E. Wynne, of Peniarth, Mr. Dawes, Canon R. Williams, of Rhydycroesau, and Mr. Smith (Mr. West's agent), together with four labourers brought by Mr. Wynne and Mr. Smith (two each).

Excavation, which commenced with the making of a shaft at the apex and the cutting of two trenches, from the n.w. and s.e. sides respectively to the centre, revealed the fact that the tumulus consisted of a core of stones, or cairn, with a covering of soil 18 in. in thickness.

"The outer stones of the cairn were for the most part so large as to be as much as a man could lift, while *the viscera* consisted of small stones, scarcely larger than the broken stone now used for repairing high-roads." With the stones, which were of different kinds, there was much charcoal intermixed. Inside the cairn the only relics discovered were (a) two pieces of rusty iron, the larger of which Mr. Wynne suggested to be part of a sword or dagger-blade near the hilt, and (b) the bones and teeth of some animals—deer and sheep, which lay underneath and above "two stones lying transversely across the [S.E.] trench, of such magnitude that each required the united strength of three men to remove it." With these bones was found the smaller piece of iron, much corroded. Beneath the cairn was a stratum of clay, 3 or 4 in. thick, with which a quantity of charcoal and some small stones were mixed. In the centre a grave had been cut in the rock, in which was deposited a human body at length on its back from N.E. to S.W., the head being to the N.E. This belonged to a man considerably above 6 ft. in height and between 40 and 50 years of age. Over and about the skeleton, which was very much decomposed, certain parts having disappeared altogether, clay, quite black with charcoal, was rammed tightly, and pieces of pure charcoal were adhering to parts of the skull and lower jaw. The larger (apparently) piece of iron was found about 15 in. above the position of the body. Over where the left breast must have lain, and the right hand would, from the curvature of the arm, have been placed, part of a bronze dagger, with the rivets remaining in it, was discovered.

PRESENT LOCATION OF DAGGER, ETC. The dagger, and at least the smaller piece of iron, were taken to Ruthin Castle, the residence of

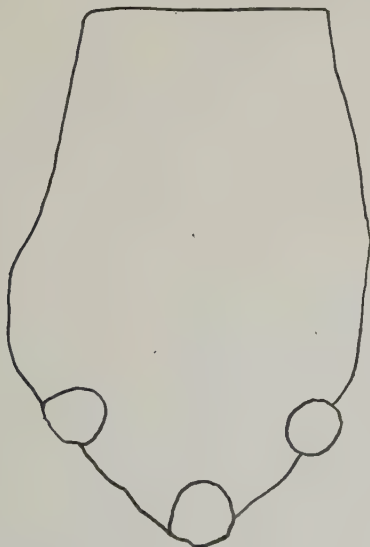


FIG. 30—DAGGER FROM YR
ORSEDD WEN.

Mr. F. R. West, the landlord of Orsedd Wen. When the estate was sold, and the Castle bought in 1920 by Dr. Sprigg, the small collection

of antiquities at the Castle passed into the hands of the latter, and is still preserved at the Castle, now known as "Duff House." With the *dagger* is a label inscribed: "Part of a spear head or dagger (ancient British) found with a skeleton in a tumulus at Orsedd Wen . . . in March, 1850. The outline [on the card to which the implement is attached] is filled up from a spear of similar type, found at Ebnall, near Oswestry, in 1848 or 9." The blade, which still retains the three rivets, is flat and plain. Its edges are much broken. Length, $2\frac{7}{8}$ in. ; width, $1\frac{7}{8}$ in.* The small piece of *iron* is a bent nail $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. long. As to the "piece of rusty iron suggested to be part of a sword or dagger-blade near the hilt," there is no certainty that it was preserved. It may be mentioned, however, that among the objects and labels kept at Ruthin Castle, is a folded paper with the following words outside: "Dust [dug ?] out of a Tumulus near Craignant," and

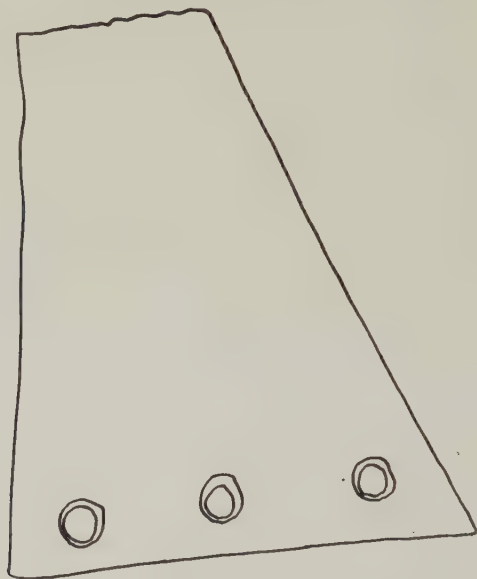


FIG. 31—FRAGMENT OF IRON SPEARHEAD
(CRAIGNANT).

inside an outline, here reproduced, of a fragment of an implement, with the words: "Size of the spearhead found, the point was broken." Craignant is the name given to the district in which Yr Orsedd Wen lies. In the old 1-in. Ord. map the name "Craignant Park" occurs immediately to the w. of Orsedd Wen tumulus, which is marked. It is not stated whether the "spearhead" found near Craignant was iron or bronze, but whatever its material may have been it is not unlikely that it was discovered in either of the Orsedd Wen tumuli. There does not seem to be another tumulus in the district. Search and inquiries were made locally on May 1, 1928.

* When the antiquities at Ruthin Castle were inspected by the writer on May 9, 1928, it was found that the dagger blade was missing, the label only remaining.

OTHER EXAMPLES OF RIVETED FLAT KNIFE DAGGERS. In addition to the Orsedd Wen dagger and that discovered at Nilig, Cyffylliog Parish, two or three others are reported from Denbighshire, as for example the one found in the Rhiwiau tumulus, Llansannan, and the one said to have been dug up in Derwen Parish, but of these we have no authentic knowledge. In the whole of Wales, according to Dr. Cyril Fox (*Arch. Camb.*, 1928, p. 173), 11 other examples have been discovered: 1. Anglesey, Merddyn Gwyn Barrow, Pen-traeth: 3 rivets, 3.5 in. long; 2. Breconshire, Cefn Coed y Cymer: 3 rivets, 4.2 in. by 2.1 in. In Cyfarthfa Castle Museum, Merthyr; 3. Caernarvonshire, Dolwyddelan: 2 rivet holes, 2.36 in. by 1 in. In Brit. Mus.; 4. Flintshire, Ffridd-y-garreg-wen tumulus (Whitford): 2 rivets, 4.5 in. by 1.7 in. In Nat. Mus. of Wales; 5. Glamorganshire, Candleston: 3 rivets, 4.6 in. by 1.8 in. In Nat. Mus. of Wales; 6. Glam., High School Grounds, Cowbridge: 3 rivets, 4.5 in. by 2.25 in. Nat. Mus. of Wales; 7. Merionethshire, Tomen-y-mur: 2 rivets, 2.5 in. long; 8. Montgomeryshire, Darowen: 3 rivets, 4.5 in. by 2.1 in. In Aberystwyth Univ. Coll. Mus.; 9. Found in association with No. 8. Badly damaged. In Aberystwyth Univ. Coll. Mus.; 10. Pembrokeshire, Corston Beacon, Hundleton: 3 rivets, 9.5 in. by 2.5 in. In Nat. Mus. of Wales; 11. Radnorshire, Little Hill, Llandrindod Wells, 3 rivets, 3.2 in. by 1.12 in. In Nat. Mus. of Wales.

DATE. Mr. Wynne Ffoulkes conjectured that the Orsedd Wen tumulus was the grave of Gwên, the most valiant of the 24 sons of Llywarch Hên, who was killed at Rhyd Forlas and buried in the same neighbourhood [see "Canu Llywarch Hen i'w Henaint a'i Veibion," *Myv. Arch.*, p. 94: "Ar ryd Vorlas y llas Gwên"]. The Forlas or Morlas brook rises a few hundred yards to the N.W. of the tumulus, and joins the Ceiriog near Chirk.

"Yr Orsedd Wen," for that is the name by which the farm, from the tumulus, is called, cannot possibly signify Gwên's Gorsedd or Tumulus, as Mr. Ffoulkes supposed. Gwên's Gorsedd would be "Gorsedd Wên" or "Gorsedd Gwên," which forms are never used. The name "Yr Orsedd Wen" means "The White Tumulus," with reference to the white spar that was in the stones which covered it. There is a "Garnedd Wen" in Llanarmon D.C. Parish, so called for the same reason.

That there was an ancient tradition to the effect that Gwên was buried not far from the river Morlas, and that his resting place was marked by a tumulus or cairn, seems to be attested by the last stanza in the Poem of Llywarch Hên, already referred to, viz.:

"Teneu vy ysgwyd ar asswy vy nhu

"Cu bwyv hen as gallav

"Ar Rodwydd Vorlas gwyliav."

[Thin my shield on my left side.

Though I be old, as long as I can,

On Morlais Mound will I watch.]

There is not, however, any justification for identifying Gwên's resting place with "Yr Orsedd Wen" tumulus, which is, in all probability,

to be assigned to the Iron Age. This conclusion is pointed to by the presence in the mound of iron and bronze, and by the inhumation method of interment. In a footnote on p. 224 of *Arch. Camb.* for 1851, Mr. W. Wynne Ffoulkes states that "a very learned antiquary, Dr. Thurnam," did not consider the reasons he gave for regarding this tumulus as the tomb of Gwên, "satisfactory or conclusive."

Finds seen at Ruthin Castle Sept. 30, 1919, and May 27, 1925.

Site visited May 1, 1918, and Sept. 24, 1923.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1851, pp. 9 ff. ; *Inventory*, No. 186, p. 58.]

II.

SITE. This stands at the end of a long uprising bank, lying N.W. and S.E., sharply defined on the w. side, about 300 yds. to the S.E.* of No. 1, and some 150 yds. to the w. of Offa's Dyke.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xlii, N.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 53' 48''$; long. $3^{\circ} 6' 56''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The tumulus has been partly excavated at some unknown date, there being a shallow crater-like opening at the summit, about 15 ft. in diameter. A line of stones, at present almost completely covered with turf, surrounds the rim of the crater. The circumference of the tumulus is about 44 yds. and the height $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 ft., except on the w. side, where it merges in the bank already mentioned.

Seen Sept. 24, 1923.

TUMULI : BRYN BUGEILYN.

I.

SITE. This tumulus is stated by Mr. W. Wynne Ffoulkes, in *Arch. Camb.*, 1851, p. 220, to have stood close (on the N. side) to a road crossing the mountain E. and W., on a freehold allotment called "Bryn Bugailen," belonging to a farmer residing under the hill. Bryn Bugeilyn is situated on high ground, about 1,300 ft. above Ordnance datum, $1\frac{3}{4}$ m. or so S.S.E. of Glyn Ceiriog village, and about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. of the road from Glyn to Selattyn. The site of the tumulus, of which there is very little trace at present, seems to be about 320 yds. S.W. of the building at Bryn Bugeilyn.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxix, S.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 54' 40''$; long. $3^{\circ} 10' 30''$.]

EXCAVATION. Only about half the tumulus was left when Mr. Wynne Ffoulkes undertook, in July, 1850, to excavate it, the rest having been previously destroyed for the sake of the stones it contained, which were used to build the walls that crossed the mountain, one of which has been referred to above. Mr. W. Ffoulkes was accompanied by Mr. W. W. E. Wynne, of Peniarth, and Mr. Smith, the agent of Mr. F. R. West, of Ruthin Castle.

The examination of the tumulus showed that it consisted of a cairn, 7 ft. in height, raised upon a single layer of bluish clay over-spread

* In the *Inventory* (No. 187, p. 58) this tumulus is erroneously stated to be "about 100 yds. north-east" of No. 1.

with ashes, and covered over with 2 ft. of loamy soil, over which was laid a single layer of stones containing a large proportion of white spar. At the time of the excavation the tumulus was covered over with heath, by which the spar was quite hidden and blackened. The height of the mound was 9 or 10 ft., while the diameter was about 60 ft. The stones composing the cairn were of various kinds—some lime, others of a gritty nature, most of them boulders. There was no peat in the soil covering the cairn, although the ground of the whole district around was peaty.

Cist. Inside the tumulus, on the s. side—the exact spot is not indicated—was a cist, the top of the covering stone of which was only 6 in. below the surface. It had been built in the usual manner with flat stones upon a floor made of blue clay overspread with ashes, and carried some way into the cairn. Its dimensions (inside measure) were: length, 19 in., and breadth, 17 in. The cist was filled with soil, probably by the industry of mice. When it was cleared out “an urn was presented to view, in an inverted position, resting on a flat stone, fitted to the dimensions of the cist.” Inside the urn was a large quantity of burnt bones, among which was a flint knife.

Urn. This was 11 in. high, by $9\frac{1}{2}$ in. at its greatest diameter. The bottom was very small, though large enough to allow of the urn

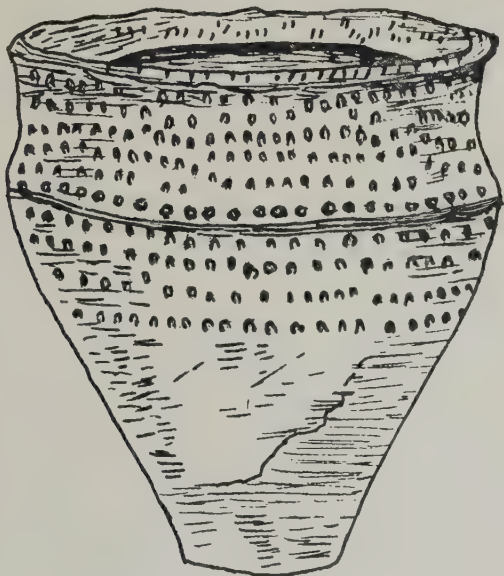


FIG. 32—BRYN EUGEILYN URN.

standing upon it without support when placed on a table. “From the bottom, its form for an inch or two was gradually dilated, and then bellied out to its greatest diameter; then, after being very

slightly contracted, was dilated to almost as great a diameter again. From the part where it attained its greatest diameter, to the top, it was ornamented all around with a sort of small cuneiform and long oval indentations, irregularly placed, and made apparently with a flat pointed instrument—not improbably with the flint weapon-point . . . found within it. The lip at the top was on the inside, and ornamented with a pattern similar to that just described; it was slightly concave, and sloped inwards, so that the inner rim of the lip was lower than the outer one. The colour of the urn was brown tinged with red, and sufficiently spotted with black to show that it had been subjected to fire. Its texture and fabrication, though coarse, was firm, but it did not appear to have been turned on a lathe.” Some peculiar marks discovered in two places on the surface of the rim by the help of a powerful magnifier led Mr. W. Ffoulkes to suspect that the mouth of the urn had been covered by some woven substance before it was inverted.

Flint Knife. This was $2\frac{1}{2}$ or 3 in. long, and sharper at one extremity than the other. On one side it was convex, and on the other slightly so. “On the latter it was smooth and plain, while on the former it was minutely worked down to the shape required with some kind of instrument, the operations of which had caused the edges of the flint to be slightly serrated. The flint of which it was formed was the dark kind, such as you find in chalk.”

The burial just described was a secondary interment.

PRESENT LOCATION. 1. *Urn.* This was exhibited in the temporary museum held in connection with the Ruthin Meeting of the *Cambrian Archaeological Association* in September, 1854, by W. Ormsby Gore, Esq., M.P. [*Arch. Camb.*, 1854, p. 252: “Cinerary urn, found in 1852, in tumulus called Bryn bugeilyn, Llangollen”]. At that time it was presumably kept at Brogyntyn, the seat of the Ormsby Gores.

In *Arch. Camb.*, 1868, p. 249, it is stated on the authority of Mr. W. W. E. Wynne, of Peniarth, who took part in the excavation of the Bryn Bugeilyn tumulus, that the urn was preserved at Ruthin Castle.

Inquiries made at the Castle, May 27, 1925, when other antiquities housed therein were inspected, failed to elicit any information about the urn. Neither was it seen by Prof. Bosanquet in 1911 (Sept. 25) when he drew up a list of the objects of archaeological interest preserved at the Castle [*Inventory*, No. 293, p. 90]. At the end of the account of the excavation of the Bryn Bugeilyn tumulus in the *Inventory* (No. 188, p. 59), the statement is made: “The urn and flint implement were taken to Brogyntyn, near Oswestry, the seat of Lord Harlech, where they are carefully preserved.” In a letter to the writer, dated Brogyntyn, Feb. 6, 1920, Lord Harlech writes that he had been endeavouring to discover the whereabouts of the urn and flint knife in question but had failed to trace them.

2. *Flint Knife*. This is preserved at the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff, having been presented in 1924 by Mrs. W. Wynne, of Peniarth, as part of the Peniarth Collection [21-24-14].

Visited May 1, 1918, Sept. 24, 1922, and May 12, 1925.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1851, pp. 219 ff; *Inventory*, No. 188, p. 58.]

II.

At the end of his article describing the excavation of tumulus No. 1, Mr. Wynne Ffoulkes states: "About 272 yards west of Bryn Bugailen Fawr," that is, No. 1, "are the remains of another tumulus almost all carried away, called Bryn Bugailen Fach." This, according to Mr. W. J. Hemp, is 450 yds. s.s.w. of No. 1, and can be identified, he thinks, by a stony, unploughed patch crossed by a wall; and this is borne out by the old 1-in. O.S. map. [6 in. O.S. sheet xxxix, s.e.: lat. $52^{\circ} 54' 28''$; long. $3^{\circ} 10' 41''$.] Some 200 yds. to the e.s.e. [lat. $52^{\circ} 54' 26''$; long. $3^{\circ} 10' 34''$] is a ring of stones, incomplete on the n. side, about 19 paces in diameter. Several of the stones are speckled with white spar.

Spot visited May 12, 1925.

[*Inventory*, No. 189, p. 59.]

TUMULUS: LLWYDIARTH.

SITE. The position of this is about 500 yds. to the n. of Llwydiarth farmhouse, in a circular enclosure, about 30 yds. in diameter, in which several trees grow.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxix, s.e.: lat. $52^{\circ} 55' 56''$; long. $3^{\circ} 9' 30''$.]

DESCRIPTION. At present only the remains of the tumulus are to be seen, the circumference of which is about 62 paces and the height a foot or 18 in. Its surface is strewn with stones, indicating that it was largely composed of that material. Elevation: above contour line 1,000.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. Mr. Jephunneh Owen (died 1910), in his "Llyfr Tregeiriog," a MS. history of the district, writes: "Bryn Arddun, three tumuli: two near Bryn Widdyn [Arddyn?], and one where a round grove is, opposite Llwydiarth" [translated from Welsh].

TRADITION. Mr. Frank Davies, of Ffynnon Las, Llangollen, who was brought up at Llwydiarth, informed the writer in 1923 that many years ago bodies or human bones were turned up in ploughing the tumulus, and that in consequence the spot was enclosed with a dry wall, and trees planted in the interior. At present the wall is in a dilapidated condition.

Seen May 12, 1925.

TUMULI: BRYN ARDDUN.

I.

SITE. One of these stands about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. to the s. of Bryn Arddun house, in the second field from both the roads that join near the house in question, which is about $\frac{3}{4}$ m. n.w. of Pontfadog Church. The exact spot is about 150 yds. from the e. hedge and 20 from the n.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxix, n.e.: lat. $52^{\circ} 56' 14''$; long. $3^{\circ} 9' 29''$.]

DESCRIPTION. It is a small tumulus, measuring about 42 paces in circumference and about 2 ft. in height, and composed largely of stones. Its height has evidently been reduced. It is left uncultivated and gorse grows on it. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. The late Mr. Jephunneh Owen (died 1910) refers in his MS. history of the district (Llyfr Tregeiriog) to this and No. 2 in the following terms :—" Bryn Arddun : tair o domenydd ; dwy yn ymyl Bryn Widdyn [Bryn Arddyn ?] ac un lle mae llwyn crwn oddiar Llwydiart " [Bryn Arddun : three mounds ; two near Bryn Arddun, and one where there is a circular copse over against Llwydiarth].

II.

SITE. The other tumulus is in the same field as No. 1, some 135 paces to the E., quite near the hedge.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxix, N.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 56' 13''$; long. $3^{\circ} 9' 20''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This has undergone considerable disturbance, and is not so well defined as No. 1. In circumference it is about 40 paces, and in height about 1 ft. It is composed to a great extent of stones and left uncultivated.

Seen May 12, 1925.

CAIRNS : GRAIG WEN HILL.

I.

SITE. Graig Wen Hill lies to the S.E. of the hamlet of Pontfadog, the summit, which is 1,330 ft. high, being about a mile from the parish church.

One cairn-site is on the slope called " Pant-y-caria," some 500 yds. N.N.W. of the highest point of the hill.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxix, S.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 55' 46''$; long. $3^{\circ} 7' 59''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This was originally a fine cairn, but at present only the edge or fringe, to the height of 2 ft. or so, remains intact, the great bulk of the stones having been removed, apparently to build the field-walls that are in the vicinity. The stones that are left—a considerable quantity—are small, some of which may have been gathered from the surface of the field. The circumference is about 60 paces. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

II.

Some 75 yds. to the S.S.W. of No. 1 is apparently a smaller cairn, about 34 paces in circumference and $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. The stones are covered with turf. A hawthorn grows on the N.W. edge and a few gorse bushes on the N.E. slope.

[Lat. $52^{\circ} 55' 43\cdot5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 7' 58''$.]

III.

SITE. The remains of another cairn are to be seen close to a wire fence some 95 paces S.W. of the highest point.

[Sheet xxxix, S.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 55' 32''$; long. $3^{\circ} 7' 42''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This cairn is about 65 paces in circumference, the present height varying from $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. to $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. The stones left are rather small. One large stone is to be seen inside. A modern pile of stones has also been erected. Many stones tinged with white spar lie about. Elevation : above contour line 1,250. Owner of land : Miss Chapman, New Buildings.

IV.

About 26 paces E. of No. 2, partly crossed by the wire fence referred to above, are the remains of a smaller cairn, now covered with gorse bushes. Its circumference is about 50 paces and height $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft.

V.

Two hundred yards to the s.w. of No. 2, close to but on the other side (s.) of the same fence, in a cultivated field, are the remains of yet another cairn. This is about 36 paces in circumference, the present height being about $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. Stones collected from the field have been dumped on the site. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxix, s.e. : lat. $52^{\circ} 55' 29''$; long. $3^{\circ} 7' 50''$.]

VI.

About 45 yds. to the s. of No. 4 is another heap of stones, oval in outline and measuring across 11 by 7 paces. The stones vary a good deal in size. Some of them were collected from the field, but there is no reason to believe that all were. The foundations of an original cairn are clearly discernible here, as in No. 5, though no doubt much disturbed by cultivation.

[Sheet xxxix, s.e. : lat. $52^{\circ} 55' 27''$; long. $3^{\circ} 7' 54''$.]

VII.

SITE. In the second field to the w. of the farmstead of New Buildings are three cairn-sites. One stands about 300 yds. to the w.n.w. of the house and 78 and 128 paces from the E. and N. hedges of the field respectively.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxix, s.e. : lat. $52^{\circ} 55' 17''$; long. $3^{\circ} 7' 33''$.]

DESCRIPTION. It is about 55 paces in circumference and $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. Large quantities of stone, it is evident, have been removed for building purposes, and small ones from the field heaped on the site. Several large stones remain. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

VIII.

The second cairn in this field lies about 60 yds. to the s.e. of No. 7. This is about 36 paces in circumference and 2 ft. in height.

[Lat. $52^{\circ} 55' 16''$; long. $3^{\circ} 7' 31''$.]

IX.

About 130 paces to the s.e. of No. 7 is the third cairn, which measures 55 paces or so in circumference and $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. This has apparently undergone less disturbance than the others.

[Lat. $52^{\circ} 55' 15''$; long. $3^{\circ} 7' 28''$.]

Seen July 7, 1926. Information about Nos. 4, 5, 6 was originally supplied by the Rev. E. J. Fisher, Rector of Pontfadog.

CAIRN : SPRING HILL.

SITE. This cairn stands just under $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the N.N.E. of Spring Hill house, in a plantation called Caemor Wood. The exact spot is 116 paces from the w. boundary of the wood and 20 from the s. Elevation : above 1,400 ft.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxix, S.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 54' 22''$; long. $3^{\circ} 10' 26''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The cairn measures in circumference about 32 paces and in height from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 ft. It has been much disturbed and robbed of a considerable quantity of its stones.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. This is apparently the "Carnedd on Gwastad Mawr, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles E.N.E. of Llanarmon Dyffryn Ceiriog," included in the Rev. H. Longueville Jones's list of Denbighshire tumuli, etc., in *Arch. Camb.*, 1853, p. 263.

Seen Sept. 24, 1923.

TUMULUS (?) : PLAS CROGEN.

SITE. This stands at the s. corner of the middle field to the N.W. of Plas Crogen Wood, and $\frac{1}{4}$ m. w. of Plas Crogen house. The spot is a little over $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.S.E. of Pontfadog Church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxix, S.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 54' 18''$; long. $3^{\circ} 7' 9''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The mound, which is artificial, measures about 32 paces in circumference and $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. It is composed of soil with some stones, and covered with turf. The surface is rather irregular, showing that the tumulus, if such it be, has been disturbed. Altitude : above contour line 1,250.

Seen May 10, 1927.

CONCENTRIC CIRCLES : SPRING HILL.

SITE. The position of the above is about 300 yds. N. of Spring Hill house and about 70 paces S.S.E. of the w. corner of Caemor Wood. The altitude, as given on the Ordnance maps, is 1,470 ft.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxix, S.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 54' 20''$; long. $3^{\circ} 10' 33''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The concentric circles in question, two in number, measure respectively 50 and 90 paces in circumference. They are composed of stone and earth, and have a height of about $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. and a width of about 3 ft. In the outer bank over 30 hawthorn bushes grow, and in the interior nearly 30 Scotch firs. There does not seem to have been originally a gap in either bank. A shallow ditch is to be seen outside the large circle.

PURPOSE AND DATE. It is impossible to pronounce a definite opinion on these. If ancient, the site may possibly be a burial place ; if modern, a cock-pit.

Visited Sept. 24, 1923.

GRESFORD.**ARTIFICIAL MOUND : NEAR STATION.**

SITE. This stands in the field between the railway line and the river Alun, to the N.E. of Gresford station, almost opposite the foot-bridge that crosses the line on the Chester side of the station. The field belongs to the Flintshire County Council, and is rented by Mr. J. Dutton, of Green Farm.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxi, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 5' 27''$; long. $2^{\circ} 58' 21''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The mound, which is certainly artificial, but probably not sepulchral, is nearly 100 paces in circumference and about 4 ft. high. On the S. side, up to the centre, it has been much disturbed, and a considerable amount of soil apparent'y carried away. Shallow ditches have been made on the E. and W. sides for draining purposes, which give the mound the appearance of being moated.

Seen Aug. 20, 1923.

GWERN HOWEL.**REMAINS OF CAIRN AND CIST : MOEL FRECH.**

SITE. These remains are to be seen about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. of Cerrig Ellgwm Isaf, on the slope of a common of mountain land called Moel Frech. Cerrig Ellgwm Isaf is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. of Ysbyty Ifan.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxi, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 0' 54''$; long. $3^{\circ} 41' 9''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The remains in question consist of the base of a cairn about 30 paces in circumference and 1 ft. in height, in the centre of which are two upright slabs placed at right angles, the relics of a cist. One of the slabs is about 4 ft. in length and the other $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. Elevation : above contour line 900.

Seen Oct. 15, 1925.

STONE CIRCLE : CERRIG ELLGWM ISAF.

SITE. This is situated about 600 yds. to the S.E. of Cerrig Ellgwm Isaf and about the same number of yards to the E.N.E. of Cerrig Ellgwm Uchaf, on rough uncultivated ground, close to [E. side of] the stream, Nant Cam y Wrach. Cerrig Ellgwm Isaf (freeholder, Mr. Thomas Jones) is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. of Ysbyty Ifan Church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxx, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 0' 50''$; long. $3^{\circ} 41' 41''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The circle, which is about 83 paces in circumference, consists of a continuous ring of stones about 3 ft. in width, resembling in appearance a tumbled down wall. Grass grows over the periphery in places. There is nothing in the centre or elsewhere inside the ring.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. In an essay on "Ysbytty Ifan a'i Hynafiaethau" (Y. I. and its Antiquities) in the Works of the late O. Gethin Jones, of Penmachno ("Gweithiau Gethin," Llanrwst, 1884, p. 281), appears the statement : "Yr oedd cylch mawr o gerig wrth Cerig gellgwm uchaf, er ystalm, a gwnaed o hono Gadlas a Beudy" (There was a large circle of stones near Cerrig Ellgwm Uchaf formerly and a stackyard and cow-house were made out of it).

Seen Oct. 15, 1925.

GWERSYLLT.**TUMULUS (?) : GWERSYLLT PARK.**

SITE. This is situated about $\frac{3}{4}$ m. to the N.N.E. of the parish church in Gwersyllt Park, a short distance from the front of the formerly existing mansion.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxi, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 5' 1''$; long. $3^{\circ} 0' 48''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The mound, which is about 46 paces in circumference and 3 ft. in height, looks like a tumulus, but may be only a modern construction of an ornamental character. Other smaller mounds to the N.W. are certainly modern. It is composed of soil with many stones intermixed, and covered with turf. Formerly a tree grew on it. The mound has been disturbed at the apex and on the N.W. side.

Seen March 9, 1927.

ALLEGED EARTHWORK : THE WAUNS.

SITE. This is situated between a quarter and half-a-mile to the E. of the parish church of Gwersyllt.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxviii, N.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 4' 27-45''$; long. $3^{\circ} 0' 40-5''$.]

DESCRIPTION. It consists of a huge bank roughly crescent-shape, measuring in length about 750 yds., and about 30 yds. from base to summit. There are two gaps in the bank, one about 350 yds. from the southern extremity and the other some 250 yds. further N. A high road passes through the latter and a small stream through the former. The soil composing the bank, which is gravelly, is different from that of the meadow to the N., which is peaty.

CHARACTER. The Ancient Monuments Commissioners (*Inventory*, No. 199a, p. 64) pronounce the bank in question to be "of unquestionably artificial formation." Dr. Willoughby Gardner, F.S.A., and Mr. W. J. Hemp, F.S.A., on the contrary, declare it to be natural, with which conclusion the present writer agrees.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. A description of this alleged earthwork, given in a letter from Samuel Kenrick (Jan. 7, 1840) to the Rev. Walter Davies, preserved amongst the Gwallter Mechain MSS. in the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth, is printed in the *Inventory* (Denbighshire), No. 199a.

Seen May 8, 1923.

GWYTHERIN.**TUMULUS : FFRITH UCHAF.**

SITE. This tumulus stands on rising ground just above, i.e. 35 yds. or so to the N.W. of, the road leading from Gwytherin to Llanrwst, past Llwyn Saint, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.S.W. of the former place (Gwytherin). It is about 50 yds. W. of, the little pile of stones known as Carnedd Goronwy [q.v.].

[6 in. O.S. sheet xvi, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 7' 28''$; long. $3^{\circ} 42' 7''$.]

DESCRIPTION. It is a small tumulus, measuring about 36 paces in circumference and about $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height, composed for the most part of soil, and covered with mountain turf. A circle of stones, eight of which could be either seen or felt with the foot, lay at a radius of 2 yds. or so from the centre. There is no evidence that the tumulus has ever been disturbed. Elevation: above contour line 1,000.

Seen June 2, 1925.

CARNEDD GORONWY: FAWNOG FAWR.

SITE. This so-called "Carnedd" is situated on the moor known as Y Fawnog Fawr or Ffrith Uchaf, at a height of about 1,200 ft., a mile-and-a-half s.s.w. of Gwytherin village, at the junction of the road from the latter place, which passes by Llwyn Saint farm, and a mountain track leading down to Taipella and Tudraw.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xvi, N.E.: lat. $53^{\circ} 7' 27''$; long. $3^{\circ} 42' 5''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The object to which the name of "Carnedd Goronwy" is now applied is an insignificant heap of stones measuring about 5 ft. across! Evidently this is no antiquity.

TRADITIONS. According to local common talk this little pile of stones marks the burial place of a man murdered many years ago on this spot.

It is also a current saying, heard several times by the writer, that the stones, if disturbed and removed, invariably return during the ensuing night to the heap—a bit of folklore by no means confined to the present case, cf. *Lives of the British Saints* (Gould and Fisher), vol. iii, p. 367, s.v. S. Llechid.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. In his list of Denbighshire Tumuli in *Arch. Camb.* for 1855, p. 262, the late Rev. H. Longueville Jones refers to Carnedd Grönwy as "on a hill $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. s.s.w. from Gwytherin." The monument he meant was very probably the tumulus just described.

Seen May, 1913, and June 2, 1925.

[*Inventory*, No. 201, p. 64.]

MOUND: MOEL SEISIOG.

SITE. The position of this is on the N.E. slope of Moel Seisiog, about 280 yds. from the boundary both of the parish of Pentrevoelas and that of Llanrwst.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xvi, S.E.: lat. $53^{\circ} 6' 10''$; long. $3^{\circ} 41' 48''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This mound, which may be a tumulus, is about 70 paces in circumference and $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. It is composed of peat. Rushes and heather grow on it. Elevation: above contour line 1,250.

Seen June 2, 1925.

PILLAR STONES: CHURCHYARD.



Photo. by Mr. R. S. Rowlands.

FIG. 33—PILLAR STONES—GWYTHERIN CHURCHYARD.

These, which are four in number, stand in a row about 4 yds. from the N. side of the church and 2 paces apart. They are $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. or so in height, and undressed.

On the E. face of the westernmost is the inscription VINNEMAGLI FILI SENEMAGLI. The stone next to this is not quite erect, but leans to the E.

Seen several times since 1910.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1888, p. 177, 1928, p. 298; *Inventory*, No. 202, p. 65.]

BRONZE PALSTAVE : CAECOED.

DISCOVERY. This palstave was found in 1910 by the late Mr. Edward Elias Owen, son of Mr. J. Owen, Caecoed Farm, while ploughing the field known as Y Waun or Ffridd Ucha, at the extreme s.w. corner of the farm. The exact spot was the s.w. angle of the field. The implement lay about 19 in. below the surface. Elevation : above contour line 900. Caecoed is 2 m. or so N. of Gwytherin village. [6 in. O.S. sheet xii, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 9' 36''$; long. $3^{\circ} 40' 41''$.]



With acknowledgments to the National Museum of Wales.

FIG. 34—1. SOCKETED KNIFE, MINERA. 2. BRONZE PALSTAVE, CAECOED, GWYTHERIN.
3. BRONZE AXE, DOLWEN, LLANARMON D.C.

DESCRIPTION. The implement measures about $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. long and about $1\frac{3}{4}$ in. across the widest part near the cutting edge. The tang has shallow flanges, which, about the middle of the implement, curve inwards and join, forming a semi-circular stop-ridge. On either side, in front of the stop-ridge, is a heart-shaped decoration, which is a survival of the shield-shaped ornament that was formed in earlier types by the devolving of the flanges continued beyond the stop-ridge. A piece has been broken off the end of the tang. The surface of the blade is somewhat uneven.

PRESENT LOCATION. The implement was, until 1920, kept, with other curios, at the Gwytherin School, the finder having handed it

over to the Head Teacher, Mr. D. Jones. In the year named it was given to the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff [D. 56].

The palstave was seen in June, 1915, and the site of discovery visited in May, 1918. Particulars were kindly supplied by Mr. Jones, then of the School house.

[*Inventory*, No. 207, p. 66; *Prehistoric and Roman Wales* (Wheeler), 1925, p. 144.]

BRONZE CELT.

The *Parochialia* (Ed. Lhuyd, 1699; i, p. 114), after referring under Cerrig y Drudion to a bronze celt (Bwyalh bres) in the possession of one Rheinall Jones [living] near the church, adds: "Vo gawd yn arall ymhlwy Gwytherin". [Another was found in Gwytherin parish].

HENLLAN.

OSSIFEROUS CAVE: PLAS HEATON.

SITE. This cave is in the face of a rock close to the farm buildings at Plas Heaton, which lies about 3 m. n.w. of Denbigh.

[6 in. O.S. sheet viii, s.e.: lat. 53° 12' 35"; long. 3° 26' 59".]

EXPLORATION. The cave was explored with the view of providing relief work to a number of casuals, one hard winter in the sixties, by the late Col. J. R. Heaton, uncle to the late owner of the property, Col. Wilfrid Heaton (died 1921). Col. J. R. Heaton was under the impression that the soil of the cave possessed special virtues as manure.

At that time the opening or entrance was only a few feet in height. When some digging was done it was found that the cave had been inhabited at two different ages, there being evident traces in it of two floors, the lower being 25 or 30 ft. below the surface at that time. The cave was excavated for some 20 yds. Professors Boyd Dawkins and T. McKenny Hughes co-operated with Col. J. R. Heaton in the exploration.

FINDS. In the *upper* prehistoric stratum bones of the following animals were found: the dog, badger, goat, *bos longifrons* (short-horn), stag; in the lower or Pleistocene, those of the *hyæna*, reindeer, cave bear, glutton (lower jaw-bone). This latter, the Glutton or Wolverine (*Guloluscus*), is "one of the few land animals which range completely round the North Pole. Now it is an entirely northern form, but in Pleistocene times it reached as far south as the British Isles."

Human remains were also found; for instance, fragments of a skull containing flat-surfaced teeth, in a good state of preservation.

Other finds were: bone handle (Neolithic) 3 in. long, made from the phalangeal bone of *bos* or *bison*; bone awl (Neolithic) made from the distal end of the metacarpis of a reindeer; worked flints (discovered in brown earth): (1) 1 in. × ¼ in., (2) about 1 in. square.

LOCATION OF FINDS. The above remains have since 1891 been kept at the Grosvenor Museum, Chester, where they were seen by the writer in 1914 and subsequently.

(*Cave Hunting*, ch. v, p. 161, and ch. viii, p. 287. Particulars also furnished by Col. Wilfrid Heaton in a letter dated May 3, 1913.]

TUMULUS: PLAS HEATON.

SITE. The remains of this tumulus are in a field called Cae Degai or Dygai*, to the s. of, and belonging to, Plas Heaton, some 200 yds. from the road—Lon Degai—which leads from the lodge towards Denbigh.

[6 in. O.S. sheet viii, s.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 12' 19''$; long. $3^{\circ} 26' 54''$.]

DESCRIPTION. Mr. Wynne Ffoulkes, who excavated the mound in 1850, writes : " The tumulus was placed on a node of limestone rock which cropped up to the surface, and was almost wholly composed of stone cut from the rock." It was 53 ft. in diameter and 6 ft. 10 in. in height.

The tumulus now presents the appearance of having been considerably truncated, though it is still several feet in height. In the centre there is a saucer-shaped hollow, about 10 paces across, showing abundant signs of disturbance. A clump of trees grows on and around the tumulus.

EXCAVATION. When on a visit to Plas Heaton in September, 1850, Mr. Wynne Ffoulkes was informed that about 1820 some workmen, in removing a number of loose stones, apparently from the tumulus, had come to what undoubtedly was a cist, covered by a large limestone slab. Contenting themselves with raising the capstone and digging their spades into the cist, the workmen covered it up without examining it further.

A little later, with the permission of Mr. John Heaton, Mr. Wynne Ffoulkes undertook to excavate the tumulus, employing four men for two days, viz. Sept. 30 and Oct. 1, 1850. From his account in *Arch. Camb.* for 1851, we gather that his excavation consisted in cutting a trench across the mound nearly N. and S.

FINDS. (a) *Animal bones.* In the centre of the trench, about 3 ft. from the apex, the bones of some large animal—afterwards discovered to be an ox—were exhumed.

(b) *Calcined bones and fragments of urn.* At the s. extremity, on the E. side of the trench, within a foot of the surface, a deposit of burnt bones and fragments of an urn more than usually ornamented were brought to light.

Four fragments of the urn are preserved at Plas Heaton. The largest piece, which is about 4 in. square, shows that the urn was ornamented on the lip inside and on the rim outside with series of dots, and lower down with two rows of dots about a couple of inches apart, between which were lines forming a diamond pattern. The exterior surface of the smaller pieces has crumbled away.

(c) *Skeleton No. 1.* When the trench had been carried to the depth of 5 ft. 7 in. some bones were discovered on the E. side of it immediately beneath the apex of the mound. These consisted of leg and thigh bones of a skeleton which fronted full to the trench, gathered up and crossed. Then the vertebrae of the back and the ribs were

* The word Degai (radical form, Tegai) is accented on the last syllable -gai, cf. Llandegai, near Bangor. Tegai or Tygai is an honorific form of Cai, Lat. *Caius*.

come to. These lay in a curved position leaning back from the trench. Lastly, the shoulder blades, neck, and the skull were met with. The face, lower jaw, and teeth were entire and in a good state of preservation, but the rest fractured into small pieces. Arms were also found, but their original position was unknown. This skeleton was nearly perfect.

(d) *Skeleton No. 2.* The bones of another skeleton were found facing E. from the trench immediately behind the first skeleton and leaning sideways towards the N. These two skeletons formed, as it were, a cross somewhat resembling in form a St. Andrew's Cross.

(e) *Cist.* Both the above skeletons rested on the southern extremity of the covering stone of a *cist*, which was level with the floor of the mound (i.e. the original surface of the ground, 5 ft. 7 in. beneath the apex). This *cist* was rudely made and the covering slab—1 ft. 6 in. by 1 ft. 3 in.—fitted so badly at the N.W. corner as to leave rather a large hole at the side through which a considerable quantity of soil found its way during the excavation. The long axis of the *cist* lay pretty much in the same direction as the trench.

(f) *Skeleton No. 3.* The *cist* contained a skeleton laid on its left side, with the arms and legs gathered up against the stomach and chest. The head lay to the N. and was slightly bent forwards on the chest.

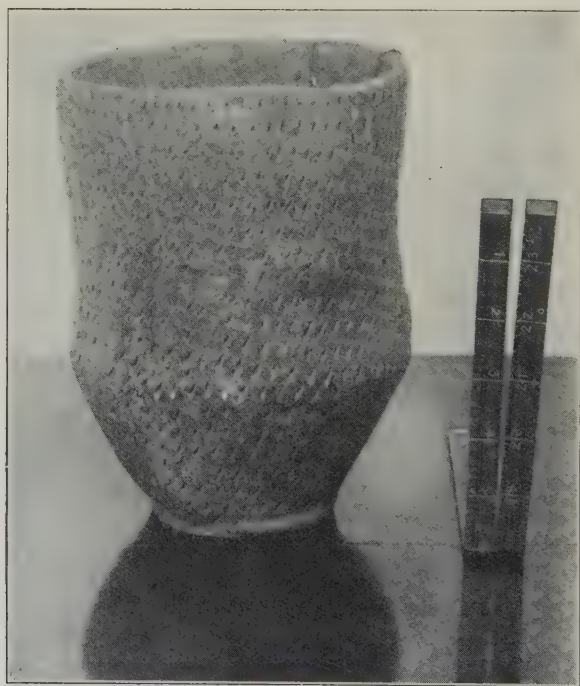


Photo. supplied by Mr. W. J. Heaton.

FIG. 35—PLAS HEATON BEAKER.

(g) *Beaker.* Immediately behind the skeleton in the N.W. corner of the *cist*, buried in the soil which had tumbled in there

during the work, were the fragments of a beaker of a somewhat elegant design, about 8 in. in height, 6 in. across the mouth, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. across the base, with a thickness of wall from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{3}{8}$ in. The surface was wholly covered by small slanting indentations, produced rudely with a round-ended implement, somewhat more than $\frac{1}{4}$ in. in breadth. Under the first and fourth row from the top were some very small irregular punctures. There were also impressed markings on the narrow lip. The paste was hard and well compacted, and of reddish-brown colour, stained partially with a darker hue. The vessel seemed to have been broken at a remote period, for small fibres of vegetation appeared over the edges of the fractures.

The vessel was skilfully reconstructed by Mr. Ready, and is preserved at Plas Heaton. The colour now is, not reddish-brown but light yellow. See Abercromby's *Bronze Age Pottery*, i, p. 27, where it is compared with fig. 75 from Oxford, pl. ix.

(h) *Skeleton No. 4.* On the second day (Oct. 1), at the s. extremity of the trench and immediately beneath the spot where the deposit of burnt bones was discovered, Mr. W. Ffoulkes found on a level with the top of the *cist*, and at right angles to it, a fourth skeleton laid on its left side with its arms and legs gathered up in the same way as those of the skeleton in the *cist*, and facing s.

This skeleton was put together by Dr. Thurnam at the College of Surgeons and placed in the Museum of the College, where it still is.

It presented "the characteristics of the early Celtic race, but more advanced than some from the lowest state of barbarism."

DATE OF TUMULUS. The discovery of a "beaker" (formerly called "drinking cup") in the *cist*, coupled with the fact that the original burials were of uncremated bodies—an almost invariable association—points to the conclusion that the tumulus dates back to the early Bronze Age (2000–1500 B.C.). See Abercromby's *Bronze Age Pottery*, ii, pp. 107 ff.

The deposit of burnt bones (*b*) which was found only a foot or so beneath the surface would be a secondary interment made at a later period in the Bronze Age. The ashes would be originally placed in the urn which was discovered in fragments.

Site visited and pottery inspected in 1914; also Jan. 23, 1923.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1851, pp. 274 ff.; *ib.* 1868, pp. 246; *Inventory*, No. 218, p. 67.]

TUMULUS: COED Y PLAS.

SITE. This tumulus stands in the wood called "Coed y Plas," about 500 yds. to the s.s.e. of the mansion of Plas Heaton, near Yr Hen Ardd (The Old Garden), and 150 yds. or so n. of the Cae Degai tumulus.

[6 in. O.S. sheet viii, s.e.: lat. $53^{\circ} 12' 23''$; long. $3^{\circ} 26' 55''$.]

DESCRIPTION. It is somewhat small in size, measuring only about 46 paces in circumference. Its height is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. Several small trees grow on it. It is composed of loamy soil, and stands on slightly sloping ground. Elevation: above contour line 400.

Seen Jan. 23, 1923.

TUMULUS : PLAS MEIFOD.

SITE. The position of this is in the field in front of the house of Plas Meifod, near the bye road connecting the main roads from Henllan village to Trefnant and Denbigh respectively. The spot is a little over $\frac{1}{4}$ m. E.N.E. of the parish church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet viii, s.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 12' 6''$; long. $3^{\circ} 27' 22''$.]

DESCRIPTION. At the spot indicated is a flat-topped circular mound, some 85 paces in circumference and about 5 ft. in height. On it seven trees grow. It is composed of lime-stones and loamy soil. In all probability we have here a tumulus similar to that in Cae Degai, a quarter-of-a-mile or so to the N.E., but without excavating it is of course impossible to be certain. There is no doubt about its being at least partly artificial. Elevation : above contour line 400.

Visited in 1915 and Sept. 5, 1922.

TUMULI : PLAS HEATON.

I.

SITE. One of these stands some 62 paces from the N.W. hedge and 105 from the gate at the S.W. corner of the field immediately to the S. of Cae Degai, the field in which the excavated tumulus is situated.

[6 in. O.S. sheet viii, s.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 12' 12''$; long. $3^{\circ} 26' 41''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The circumference is about 120 paces and the height about $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. Owing to cultivation it has been much worn down and spread. Elevation : above contour line 400.

II.

In the same field, close to the N.W. hedge, and in a line with No. 1, seem to be the remains of another tumulus of similar size.

Seen June 5, 1923.

TUMULI : FOX HALL.

I.

In the field known as Maes Nodau, some 26 paces to the S. of the garden wall of Fox Hall house, is a round mound, which is probably a tumulus, though it is not unlike an old mine-crater. It is 46 paces in circumference at the base and 3 ft. in height. The centre and S.W. side have been dug out. Elevation : above contour line 500.

[6 in. O.S. sheet viii, s.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 11' 41''$; long. $3^{\circ} 26' 50''$.]

II.

A few yards to the N.E. of the house is another disturbed mound resembling a tumulus. In size it is similar to No. 1. Formerly it was used as a saw-pit, a trench to adapt it for that purpose having been driven to the centre from the S.E. side.

Seen Sept. 11, 1923.

EARTHWORK : FOX HALL.

SITE. This lies a few score yards to the s.e. of Fox Hall house, which is about half-way between Denbigh and Henllan. The name of the field is Maes Nodau (Field of the Marks). Owner and occupier, Mr. R. H. Roberts.

[6 in. O.S. sheet viii, s.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 11' 40''$; long. $3^{\circ} 26' 43''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The earthwork is circular in shape, measuring about 210 paces in circumference. The enclosing bank is low, but somewhat widely spread, the inside slope averaging about 6 paces. On the n. side, for about 46 paces, the bank is missing, having no doubt been destroyed when the fence was made. There is an entrance on the s.s.w. side about 5 paces wide, leading up to which is a road with a low bank on either side, of the same width as the entrance, and about 50 paces long. To the e. of this roadway is another bank, 68 paces long, running parallel to that of the enclosure, at a distance of 46 paces therefrom. Some 150 yds. s.w. of the above earthwork is another of irregular shape, measuring roughly 80 by 60 paces.

The site visited Sept. 11, 1923, and Ap. 3, 1929.

HOLT.

SEPULCHRAL VESSELS : WALL LOCK FIELD.



FIG. 36—SEPULCHRAL VESSELS, HOLT.

DISCOVERY. In March, 1909, in the course of the excavations carried out by the late Mr. T. A. Acton on the Roman site in the Wall Lock field, Holt, a number of Bronze Age sepulchral vessels were unearthed about 10 yds. from the n. wall of the "domestic buildings,"

whose foundations were laid bare in the field [See plan, p. 146.] The vessels were standing together in a row at ground level. There was no evidence that they had been enclosed in a tumulus.

DESCRIPTION. The pottery consisted of two urns of different sizes, an incense cup and fragments of another vessel.



FIG. 37—CINERARY URN, HOLT.

1. The largest vessel is a cinerary urn of developed food-vessel type, light brown in colour and badly baked. Its dimensions are : height, $7\frac{1}{4}$ in. ; diameter, of mouth 7 in., of base $3\frac{3}{4}$ in. The upper part is ornamented with rows of inclined depressions of maggot pattern—two rows on each side of the lip and three rows around the neck. On the broadest part or shoulder is a series of oval dints about $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. long. The urn, when found, was inverted and filled with calcined bones.

2. The dimensions of the smaller urn, which is of darker colour, are : height, $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. ; diameter, of mouth 5 in., of base $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. This is of a late and somewhat degraded type. On the rim, or rather neck, there being no proper rim, is a series of cord-impressed lines. It is said to have contained gravel and sand.

3. The incense cup is a very crude vessel, without ornament, measuring about 3 in. in height.

4. Of the fourth vessel only the rim, which is elaborately decorated with maggot ornament, survives. This is of the food-vessel type.

PRESENT LOCATION. The vessels, at one time kept at the late Mr. Arthur Acton's house, Wrexham, with the Roman objects brought to light at Holt, are now preserved in the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff.

Seen May, 1913.

[*Inventory*, No. 246, p. 77 ; *Arch. Camb.*, 1925, pp. 181-2 (for 1).]

ROMAN MANUFACTORY.

STORY OF DISCOVERY. The credit of having discovered or, more correctly, re-discovered the Roman site at Holt, a small town situated 5 m. E.N.E. of Wrexham, and 8 m. S. of Chester, belongs to the late Mr. A. Neobard Palmer (died March 6, 1915), the historian of Wrexham and neighbourhood. Mr. Palmer fully describes the circumstances in an article on "The Town of Holt" in *Arch. Camb.* for 1906 (pp. 217-240).

Pennant had been of opinion that the Romans had a military station of some description at Holt. He relied mainly on the discovery of coins there and the assumption that *Lyons*, the alternative name of the place, was an adaptation of *Legionis*—*Castra Legionis*. His own words are (*Tours*, i, 260-1) : "Originally this place had been a small outpost to *Deva*. Slopes, and other now almost obsolete works, may be seen near the castle, and on the opposite side of the water ; and coins have been found here that put the matter out of doubt. I have seen some of *Antoninus*, *Galienus*, *Constantinus*, and *Constantius*. I conjecture that the Roman name had been *Castra Legionis*, and the Welsh *Castell Lleon* or the Castle of the Legion ; because it was garrisoned by a detachment of the legion stationed at *Chester*. The *English* borderers might easily mistake *Lleon* for the plural of *Llew*, which signifies a lion, and so call it the *Castle of Lions* ; as we find it styled when it came into possession of earl *Warrcn* and his successors."

With this may be compared Gough's reference to Holt in his edition of Camden's *Britannia*, 1789 (vol. ii, p. 576) : "Near [Wrexham] is *Leon* castle, probably so called from the *Legio xx Victrix* stationed a little higher up on the other side the *Dee* [that is, at Chester], now commonly called *Holt*, and supposed to have been repaired of late by William Stanley and formerly by John, Earl of Warren."

What Pennant took to be the Roman outpost was the site of the castle erected at the end of the 13th century by John de Warren, Earl of Surrey.

As to the name *Lyons*, its form in Mediaeval times was *Castrum Leonis* or *Leonum* (Castle of the Lion or Lions). In a deed dated Oct. 3, 1431, the Castle is referred to by the Welsh name "lysclawod" for "Llys yllewod" (Court of the Lions). As Mr. Palmer observes, "*Castrum Leonum*" might conceivably have been evolved out of "*Castrum Legionum*," though there is no evidence that Holt was ever called by that name or its Welsh equivalent "*Caer-lleon*."

What led Mr. Palmer, far more than the name *Lyons* and the discovery of coins, to suspect that the Romans had some connection with Holt, and to investigate the matter, was the reference in W. Thomson Watkin's *Roman Cheshire* to the finding, in the early seventeenth century by Mr. Thomas Crue, in ground belonging to him at Holt, of a hypocaust (called by him *stove*), pillars and flat tiles, some of which were inscribed *LEG XX W.* In order, if possible, to procure more definite information, Mr. Palmer went up to the British Museum and examined for himself the original description, which is found in the *Harleian MSS.*, vol. 2111, fol. 21. This, which is a report "by one who was travelling through England making a map, together with Mr. Crue's letter on the same sheet," is given by Mr. Palmer in an appendix to his article in *Arch. Camb.*

This document, however, gave no clue as to the exact spot near Holt where the Roman relics were found, and there was no local

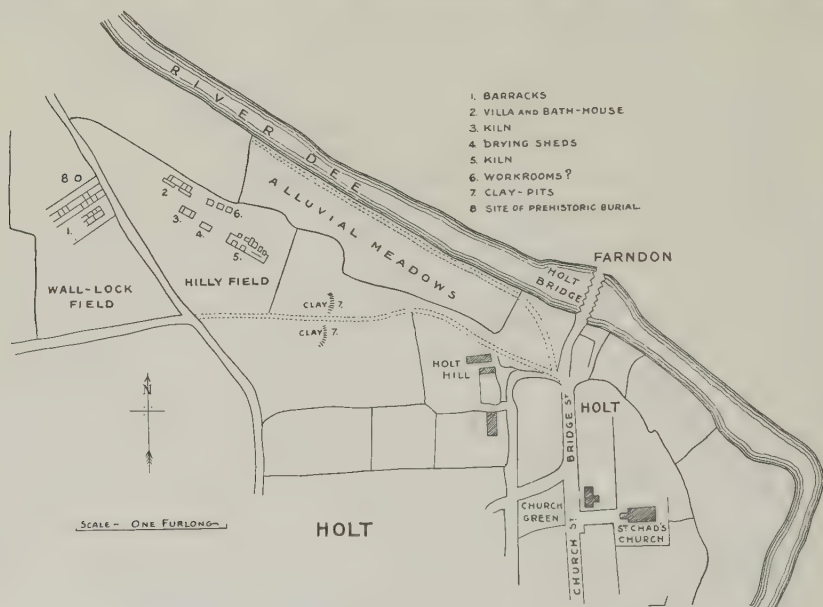


FIG. 38—PLAN SHOWING SITE OF ROMAN MANUFACTORY.

tradition as to the situation of the land owned by the Crues or Crewes—once a very important family there. Mr. Palmer was led to discover the site by a statement spontaneously made to him by Mr. G. Redrope, of Holt, to the effect that in a field called "The Wall Lock" there had been exposed foundations as of "a house of one of our kings," and dug up tiles "like terra cotta." In searching for the field in question, he came across in a ploughed strip "six broken pieces of Roman flooring and bonding brick." This strip, he afterwards learned, lay in a close called the "Hill Field." A few days later he made further finds in the same field. Soon afterwards, the Vicar of Holt, the Rev. Jenkyn Jones (Vicar of Llangedwyn, 1922), having been shown these finds, set out exploring for himself, and found similar specimens in a field adjoining on the w. to the Hillfield, but separated from it

by a miry cart-way, known as the "Old Chester Lane." Visiting this field, which turned out to be the "Wall Lock" spoken of by Mr. Redrope, in the company of the Vicar, Mr. Palmer found the soil sprinkled with broken pieces of Roman brick, and of floor, flue, and roof tiles, the last-named flanged. This was on Oct. 9, 1905. At a later date Mr. Palmer was told by the tenant that "the foundation of an old wall traversed the field." Hence, probably, the name, "Wall Lock" [Lock=enclosure]. Mr. Palmer visited both fields several times subsequently, and found ample evidence, in the shape of bricks, tiles (plain and inscribed), pottery, wall foundations, etc., that the sites had been occupied by the Romans, but for what purpose could not be determined without excavating.

Since writing the foregoing account of the discovery, the writer came across the following reference to the site in the N(ational) L(ibrary of) W(ales) MS., 1565 c., p. 383: "Old Mr. Crewe of Holt says that in the field where the man shewed me the seller, several Roman stones have been discovered, and tiles inscribed LEG XX—also urns have been found thereabouts with ashes in them, and a dish full of earth with a cover on the top. Together with a kind of Brick pipes, with certain strings in them that might be drawn out like a Harp ["Hop," interpolated] wire. This triangular Brick [sketched] was found in the same place. Each of the four leaves is an inch-and-a-quarter long, and about an inch distant [A MS. in the possession of Mr. Hugh Griffith. Ed. Lh.]" "Transcribed by A(ngharad) Ll(wyd), March 1835."

EXCAVATION. The excavation of these sites was taken in hand by Mr. T. Arthur Acton (died July 13, 1925), of Wrexham, and "carried out," to use the words of the late Prof. Haverfield, "carefully and systematically at his own cost."

Wall Locks. Early in 1907 Mr. Acton arranged with Mr. E. W. Hanson, the owner, to take the Wall Locks field for the purpose of excavation, and digging was commenced at once, with the result that this area was found to be full of Roman débris—stones, tiles, pottery, iron, lead, etc.

The cutting of a trench due north through a portion of the field, drained with 4-in. pipes 30 years previously, when tons of Roman débris must have been unwittingly carried away, revealed a big wall, 5 ft. wide, built of local red sandstone. This turned out to be the southern wall of a rectangular walled enclosure about one acre and a half in area. The interior space was filled with small rectangular chambers with a careful system of surface drainage. The excavation of this field occupied about a year. In the course of that time Prof. Haverfield paid several visits to the spot.

At the time of the excavation walls only remained, and in most cases these were only footings. All the buildings, so Mr. Acton thought, had been destroyed in early mediaeval times, possibly for the sake of the iron they might yield, and afterwards for the stones, to be used for building purposes. What was left of the walls lay buried out of sight until brought to light by the digging.

Writing not long after the suspension of the excavations owing to the Great War (1914–1918), Prof. Haverfield (*Arch. Camb.*, 1916, p. 224) thus describes the building laid bare in the Wall Lock field: "At the west end of this area (Fig. 38, No. 1) was a large rectangular enclosure, of about 62 yds. by 123 yds. (rather over $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres),

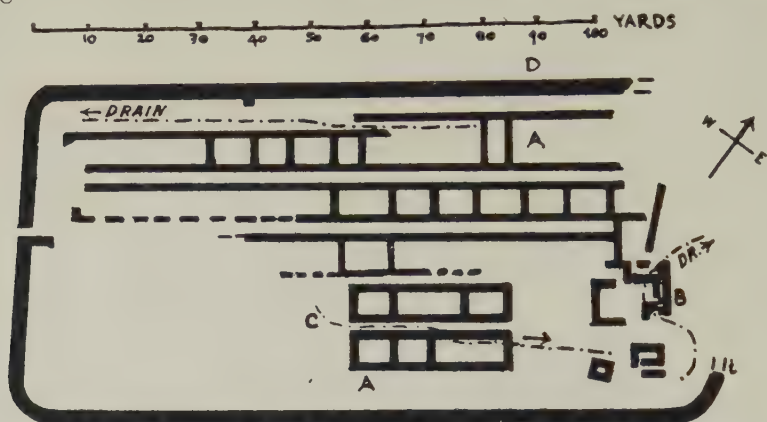


FIG. 39—PLAN OF BARRACKS.

girt with a strong wall, 7 ft. thick. Within it were five various rows of rooms, 15 ft. square, with drains; some complicated masonry, possibly latrines, filled the east end. This enclosure has not yet been wholly explored; it may have served for workmen's barracks, for the contents of two rubbish-pits in it—bones of edible animals, cherry-stones, shells of snails and Dee mussels, various potsherds, etc.—have a domestic look; mill-stones for grinding corn, including one bearing what may perhaps be a centurial inscription, and fragment of buff imported amphorae . . . were also found here."

The *Hilly Field* to the s.e. of Wall Lock and separated from it by the Old Chester Lane was, with the permission of the owner,

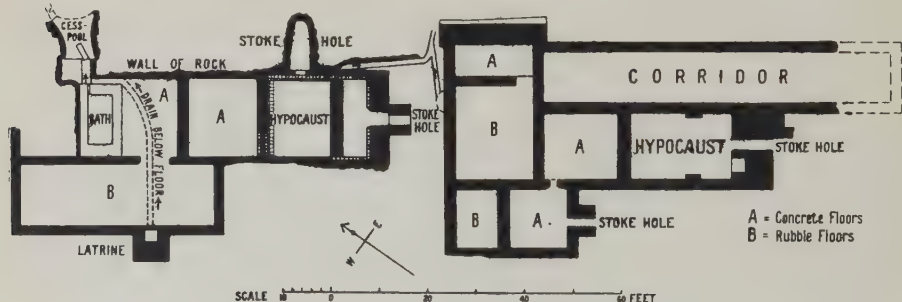


FIG. 40—PLAN OF BATH-HOUSE AND DWELLING.

Mr. J. Thomas, excavated in 1909, with the result that close to the boundary hedge on the N.E. side of the field two small buildings (Fig. 38, No. 2) were discovered close together. These were of a type much superior to those unearthed in the other field. The s.e. block, which was apparently that described by Crue in 1600 as a stove

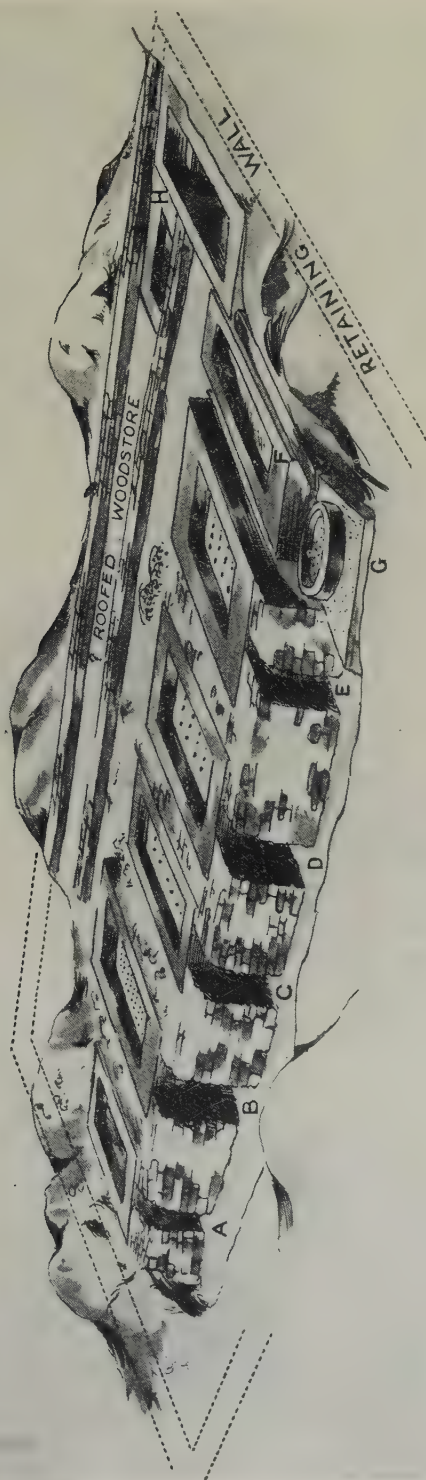


FIG. 41.—KILN PLANT RESTORED.

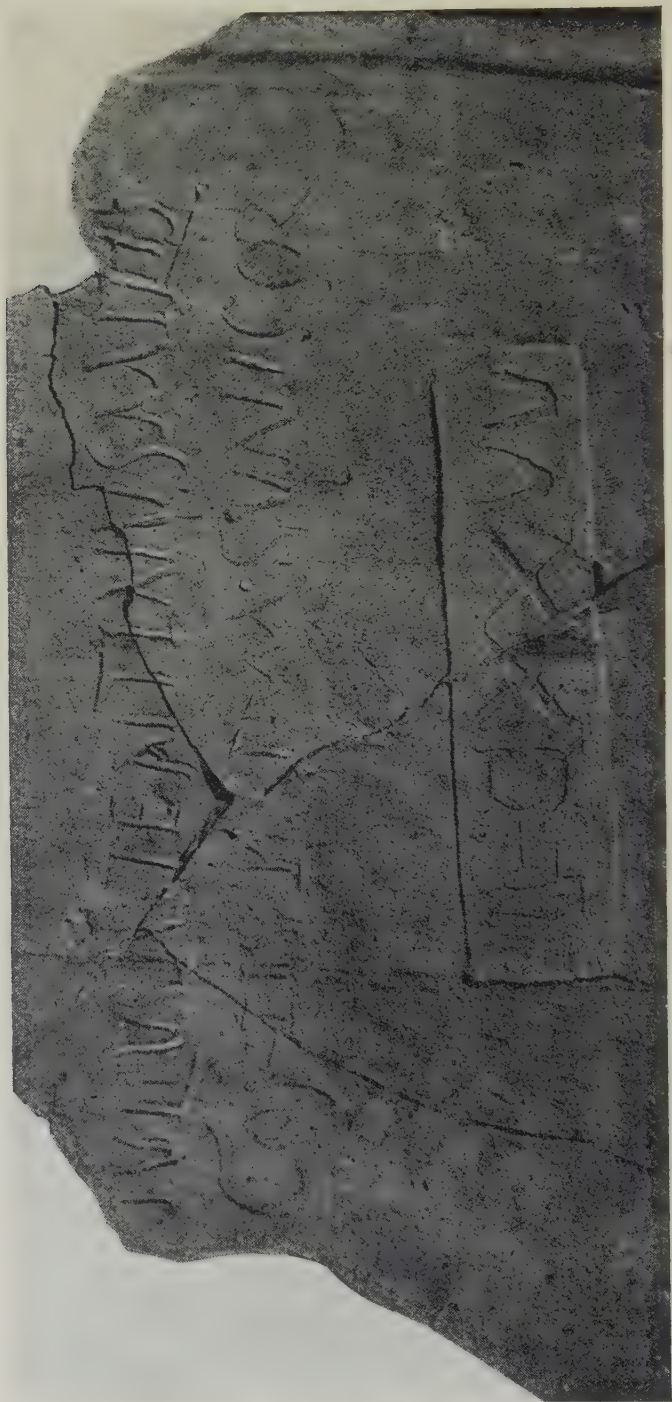


FIG. 42.—TILE BEARING GRAFFITO, ETC.

(hypocaust*), was a dwelling house, 90 ft. long with a corridor and two hypocausts. Prof. Haverfield thought it might have housed the officer in charge of the potteries. The north-western block was a bath-house with hot rooms at the E. end and dressing room, latrine, and cold bath at the W. end. One side of the building was hewn into the solid sand-stone rock to a depth of 3 ft.

Of the other structures in the same field, No. 3 on the plan [Fig. 38] was a kiln 17 ft. square with a double flue, used (as its contents showed) for potting, and indeed for fine potting. No. 4 contained a hypocaust, and was perhaps a work-room and drying shed. No. 5 was an elaborate "plant" of eight adjacent kilns in an oblong enclosure of about 55 ft. by 140 ft., girt by retaining walls. These were used for pottery and tiles. The interiors of the kilns contained many broken and a few perfect pots and tiles; round them lay an enormous mass of wood-ash, broken tiles and pots, "wasters," and the like. At No. 6 were ill-built and ill-preserved rooms containing puddled clay, potsherds, etc., which declare them to have been worksheds of some sort. At No. 7 were clay-pits.

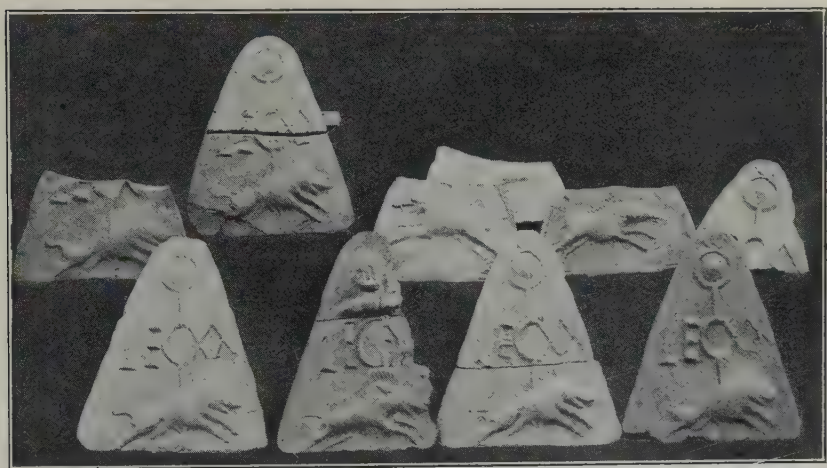


FIG. 43—ANTEFIXAE.

RELICS FOUND. Among the objects discovered the following may be mentioned:—

Pottery. 1. *Tiles* stamped with LEG XX VV [Valeria Victrix], in great abundance, mostly "wasters"; also with LEG XX WA, LEG XX W.CE. A flanged tile found in 1913 in the wall of a tile kiln, bearing a legionary stamp LEG XX VV, and above it two lines of cursive lettering, written probably with a stick before the tile was baked hard:—

JULIVS AVENTINVS MILIS
CORTIS PRIMA SUNICOR[VM]

(J. Aventinus, soldier in the first cohort of the Sunici). "This cohort is known to have been somewhere in Britain about A.D. 124.

* *Hypocaust*, an underground heating chamber for baths, etc.

Also, we have an inscription of it from Carnarvon, datable to about 210 A.D." It is conjectured by Prof. Haverfield that Aventinus may

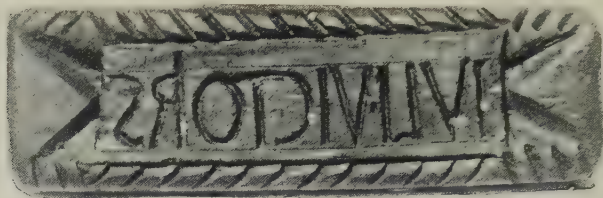


FIG. 44—MORTARIUM STAMP

have been sent to Holt to procure tiles for some fort then being built in North Wales.



FIG. 45—PUNCH FOR STAMPING

2. *Antefixae* (about a dozen), stamped with the Boar, the badge of the XXth legion; several tile and pottery stamps. Stamp of



FIG. 46—STAMPED WARE IN IMITATION OF SAMIAN.



FIG. 47.—STAMPED WARE, IMITATION OF SAMIAN.

potter, Julius Victor, made and used at Holt. A punch (poinçon) bearing a head of Silenus in relief. "It is believed to be the artist's die, from which the potters' sunk dies would be cast. From such sunk dies little casts would be made, and 'applied' in relief to the outsides of the bowls, to the handles of jugs, etc."

3. *Mortaria*—pan shaped, concave interior studded with fragments of quartz pressed into the clay.

4. *Vases* with one and two handles, of all descriptions, made in red, black, and grey. Vessels coated with green, brown, and yellow glaze, containing bowls (saggars=safe-guards) and kiln-props used to protect and support the glazed vessels during the process of firing with glaze running down. Déchelette* forms of vases *moulés*. Black ware, white ditto (Salopian); tray or game-board; lamps; lamp carrier.

5. *Samian ware*; fine decorated Samian bowls, and imitation Samian made on the spot, pale reddish-brown in colour, and in texture nearly as firm as good Samian, adorned with stamped designs (not cast in a mould).

6. Much window glass; glass beads.

Metal. 1. Nails (various) of iron; scale-beam (statera) or steelyard—piece only 6 in. long. Lead or pewter bowl. Leaden rivets. Brooches. Pins. Crucibles for casting small bronze objects.

2. Coins (copper and silver), about 45 in number, of Augustus, Vespasian, Domitian, Trajan, Valerian, Constantine.

Stone. Two centurial stones, one of which (16 in. long), found in 1913, presumably a wall stone, bearing a record of the century commanded by Rufus Sabinus, and inscribed
 ORUFI SABI.
 GNATLU

The meaning of *Gnatlu* is not known.

A mill-stone with what seems to be a centurial mark followed by the letters ΑΡΑ, suggesting that it belonged to a century of soldiers. A small stone, 7 in. high and broad, inscribed with small letters of

	M OS	
quite uncertain meaning	FOCUA	Spindle whorls.
	IIO	

PRESENT LOCATION OF FINDS. Most of the relics found at Holt were for some years housed at Oak Lodge, Mr. Acton's residence, near Rhosnesney, where the writer, in 1913, examined them, but some had been sent to the British Museum. Since the Great War a considerable part has been presented to the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff. A quantity of pottery—tiles, antefixae, etc.—is preserved in the Museum of the Public Library, Wrexham.

REASONS FOR SELECTION OF SITE. The main factors in the establishment at Holt, by the Twentieth Legion, which garrisoned Chester, of tile and pottery works for its own use and presumably also for the use of other neighbouring Roman garrisons in the latter part

*Déchelette (Joseph), an eminent French Archaeologist, who has written on the ornamented vases of Roman Gaul (1904).

of the first century, were the following, viz., the presence of high-class clay, vast oak woods, good building stone, and the easy water-way to Deva—distant about 8 m. in a straight line, but more by river (Dee).

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1906, pp. 225 ff.; *The Romans at Holt*, 1911 (T. A. Acton); *Arch. Camb.*, 1916, pp. 222–34 (Prof. Haverfield). The writer is much indebted to these articles, the language of which he has extensively borrowed.]

ROMAN COIN: WALL LOCK FIELD.

The discovery of a “second brass” of Trajan, in April, 1927, by Messrs. W. J. Williams, M.A., and R. H. Linaker, F.S.A., on the site of the Roman barrack at Holt, is reported in the *Journal of the Chester Archaeological Society*, vol. xxvii, pt. ii (1928), p. 191:—

Obv.: Laureated head of Trajan, to right.

Leg.: IMP CAES NERVA TRAIAN AVG GERM PM.

Rev.: Winged Victory standing with right hand on shield.

S.P.Q.R.

Leg.: TR POT COS IIII P.P.

S.C.

A.D. 101–2. Condition very good.

LLAI.

TUMULUS: BRYN ALUN.

SITE. This stands about 150 yds. to the E. of the Bryn Alun that is nearest to the River Alun, and a mile s.w. of Gresford Church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxi, s.e.: lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 47''$; long. $2^{\circ} 59' 45''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The tumulus is composed of soil and covered with turf. It measures about 120 paces in circumference and 5 ft. in height.

The tenant, Mr. Blackley, told the writer that when a hole 5 ft. deep was made in the mound for a staff to support a vane nothing was discovered. The hole, however, was not in the centre.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. The tumulus, which is marked on the Ordnance maps, is unjustifiably rejected by the Ancient Monuments Commissioners (*Inventory*, No. 250, p. 79). Their reference to it is as follows:—“There is a slight elevation which has every appearance of being natural, and if a tumulus ever existed here it has been completely removed.”

Inspected May 30, 1923, and previously.

CAMP: BRYN ALUN.

SITE. The camp described below is situated inside the bend in the River Alun where it reaches the most southerly point in its course, a little over a mile s.w. of Gresford Church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxviii, n.e.: lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 29''$ – $37''$; long. $2^{\circ} 59' 52''$ – $5''$.]

ACCESS. The site is most easily approached from the village of Gresford by the road which passes under the railway bridge and crosses

the river about $\frac{3}{4}$ m. to the s.w. A few hundred yards from the bridge, called Pont-y-Capel, is a track, entered by a gate on the left-hand side of the road, which leads in the direction of the camp, but not right up to it.

DESCRIPTION. The camp occupies the elevated ground on the western half of the tongue of land formed by the bend in the river. The defences consist, first, of two straight earthen ramparts with three



FIG. 48—BRYN ALUN CAMP.

ditches, which cross the neck of the elevated ground, and form the northern boundary of the camp. Of these ramparts, the outer is 52 paces in length, and the distance from the bottom of the ditch on either side to the summit is 13 paces. The inner rampart, the top of which is 32 paces from that of the other, is a little shorter, but of slightly greater strength. At the eastern extremities of these is an entrance which has been apparently widened in comparatively recent times to admit of carts passing in and out.

Along the eastern side of the plateau is a weak rampart with an external ditch, in length about 250 paces. Half-way or so down its course a second rampart starts on the outside of the ditch just mentioned. Both run parallel as far as the entrance at the southern point of the camp. Here the ramparts, which are 30 paces apart, broaden out and curve towards each other, thus forming additional protection to the entrance: unless indeed this effect has been produced in recent times by a process of widening the gap. On the other side of the entrance is a kind of double bank of inconsiderable size, beyond which the ground falls sharply towards the river.

Along the western side of the camp traces of artificial defences are very meagre. There was little need for them, as the slope to the river is very steep. It would seem that what defences there are on this side of the camp formed part of Wat's Dyke.

The camp, which is about three acres in area, belongs to Sir W. Williams Wynn, Bart., of Wynnstay, Ruabon.

CHARACTER AND DATE. This camp, there can be no doubt, was constructed for defensive purposes, and not merely as a kraal for cattle. Such strong earthworks as those on the N. side could be necessary only as fortifications against a foe. As to the period to which the camp should be assigned it is impossible to decide with any degree of confidence. On the whole the indications seem to point to a late rather than an early date.

Visited Nov. 1917, May 8 and Nov. 10, 1920.

[*Inventory*, No. 246A, p. 78.]

EARTHWORK : Y GAER.

SITE. The earthwork known as the "Gaer" is situated a mile to the N.W. of the parish church of Gresford, immediately to the S. of the road leading from the latter place to Hope.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxi, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 5' 51''$; long. $2^{\circ} 59' 32''$.]

DESCRIPTION. Oval in shape, this earthwork measures about 130 by 80 yds. The enclosing bank is somewhat low, being only 5 or 6 ft. in height. On the outside is a shallow ditch. At the N.E. end, near the road, where a cottage stands, the bank has been levelled for a few yards. There are also two other gaps, viz. at the S. end and on the E. side. These likewise are modern. Where the original entrance was, if one existed at all, is not apparent. The site, which is covered with trees, belongs to Mr. Arthur Ellis, Straight Mile, Llai.

PURPOSE. Is the embankment that of a small camp, or merely a *clawdd* enclosing a tree plantation? To the present writer it presents the appearance of an ancient earthwork of some kind, though weak for defensive purposes. Supporting this view is the name it bears, viz. "Y Gaer." Writing in *Arch. Camb.* for 1904, p. 178, the late Mr. A. N. Palmer, of Wrexham, says : "The *Gaer*, or fortified part of Nant y gaer in Llai, is an elliptical-shaped earthwork, immediately west of The Singrig. It is many years since I visited it, but the surveyor of the Ordnance map recently taken says that 'the parapet with the exception of a small part on the N.E. is tolerably well preserved, and stands in places six feet above the surrounding land. . . . The situation is rather commanding.'" The opinion of the Ancient Monuments Commissioners [*Inventory*, No. 249, p. 79] however is that this "enclosure of about two acres has nothing defensive about it except the name."

Visited May 30, 1923.

LLANARMON DYFFRYN CEIRIOG.

CAIRN : MYNYDD TARW.

SITE : This is situated near the boundary between the parishes of Llanarmon and Llanrhaidr, on the highest point of Mynydd Tarw (2,230 ft.), some $2\frac{3}{4}$ m. W. of Llanarmon village.

[6 in. O.S. xli, N.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 52' 54''$; long. $3^{\circ} 19' 9''$.]

DESCRIPTION. At the spot indicated above there is a large pile of stones, with the remains of a square shooting box, called "Yr Hen Dy," in the middle, and a modern heap of stones at the N.E. corner of the erection. In all probability the shooting box was built out of the stones of a cairn, and on its site. The outlines of the cairn, however, are not very clear, but its circumference would seem to be about 40 paces.

Seen July 1, 1924.

CAIRN : CADER FRONWEN.

SITE. This stands on the summit of Cader Fronwen, right on the boundary line between the counties of Denbigh and Merioneth, at an altitude of 2,572 ft. Cader Fronwen lies immediately to the N. of Bwlch Maen Gwynedd, and 5 m. a little to the N. of W. from Llanarmon village.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xli N.W. : lat. $52^{\circ} 54' 4''$; long. $3^{\circ} 22' 18''$.]

DESCRIPTION. Of the cairn the lower part only apparently remains, the present height being 6 or 7 ft. The circumference at the base is about 82 paces. A certain amount of soil is mixed with the stones of which it is composed. A pile of stones has in recent times been erected on the spacious flat surface of the top.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. Pennant (*Tours*, ii, 197) thus refers to the cairn : " Their (i.e. the Berwyn mountains') highest tops are *Cader Fronwen* . . . and *Cader Ferwyn*. On the first is a great heap of stones, brought from some distant part, with great toil, up the steep ascent ; and in their middle is an erect pillar. Of him whose ambition climbed this height for a monument, we are left in ignorance."

Visited Sept. 6, 1927.

[*Inventory*, No. 255, p. 80 (position incorrectly given).]

CAIRN : SWCH-CAE-RHIW.

SITE. The position of this is 3 m. N.W. of Llanarmon Church. It stands about 66 paces to the W. of a track that leads in the direction of Dolydd Ceiriog at a point about 800 yds. N.N.W. of Swch-cae-rhiw.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxviii, S.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 54' 59''$; long. $3^{\circ} 17' 56''$ (approx.).]

DESCRIPTION. This is a small cairn, the circumference being only about 25 paces. Its present height is 1 ft. The outline is quite clear, turf having grown over the fringe. The bulk of the stones have been removed, but there is a heap of fairly big stones and slabs in the hollowed-out centre. The part of the mountain on which it stands is known as Pen-y-garnedd. Elevation : above contour line 1,500.

Seen May 11, 1927.

CAMP: CERRIG GWYNION.

SITE. This camp is situated on the top of a hill, called Mynydd Bach, 1,579 ft. in altitude, about a mile N.W. of the parish church of Llanarmon D.C. The site, which was formerly the property of the Wests of Ruthin Castle, belongs at present to the owners of Dolwen and Llwythter Isaf farms, the w. portion to the former and the E. and larger portion to the latter.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xli, N.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 53' 46-51''$; long. $3^{\circ} 15' 35-47''$.]

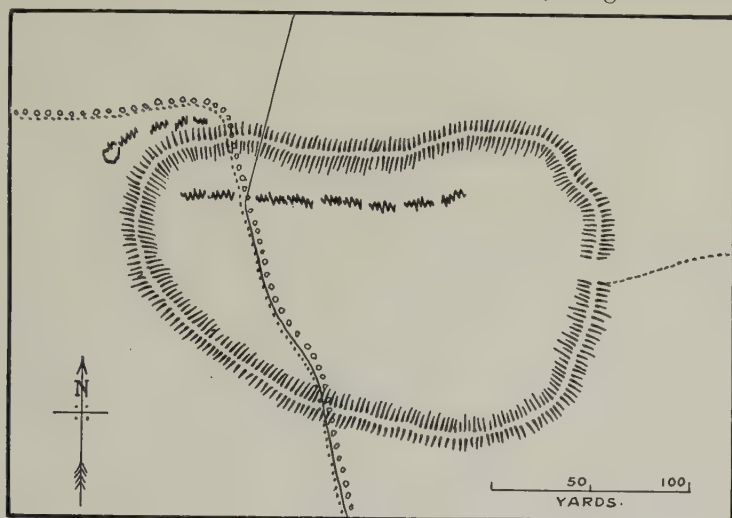


FIG. 49—CERRIG GWYNION CAMP.

DESCRIPTION. The defences of the camp consist of a single rampart with external fosse, the average distance between the bottom of the latter and the top of the former being about 4 yds. The rampart is constructed of earth and stone—both materials predominating in different places. The principal entrance is on the E., about 38 paces from the S.E. corner, the width of the gap being 12 paces.

Following the course of the defences from this point in a westerly direction, we find that at the S.E. corner they dwindle to little more than a ditch. On the S., S.W., and W. they are well preserved. In the latter side, which is short, is a small opening, 4 to 5 paces across, with the ditch levelled up. This may have been an original entrance. To the N. of this the defences are of considerable strength, the top of the rampart being 5 or 6 yds. from the bottom of the fosse. At the N.E. corner some disturbance seems to have taken place. At a distance of from 10 to 20 yds. inwards from the embankment on the N. side, outcrops of quartzite stone form a sort of ridge lying W. and E. In places the stones are of great magnitude.

ALLEGED REMAINS OF AN EARLIER CAMP. On the W. side, a segment of the camp, about 60 yds. at the widest part, is cut off by a bank made of earth, lined on the E. side by large stones containing white spar. This bank is continued for a considerable distance along the N. brow of the hill in a westerly direction, afterwards turning down

towards the s. and reaching the bottom of the hill a little to the E. of the farmhouse of Dolwen.

The late Archdeacon D. R. Thomas, in *Arch. Camb.* for 1882 (p. 102), expressed the opinion that the bank in question formed the defences of an older encampment than the one described above, the construction of which he attributed to Henry II. But an examination of the points where the two sets of embankments intersect each other clearly shows that the stone embankment is later than the fossed rubble bank, which latter has been breached by the former. His conjecture that "the 'white stones,' in a bed of white spar which crops out along its ridge from east to west," have been "placed edge-ways so as to form a sort of *chevaux de frise* along the north and north-west faces of its summit" is devoid of foundation.

NAME. The only name by which the camp is known is "Cerrig Gwynion," i.e. "White Stones." It is so called from the white spar or quartz which is everywhere in evidence on the summit of the hill, there being great masses of it inside and outside the camp.

REFERENCE. In Lewis's *Topographical Dictionary* (s.v. Llanarmon Dyfryn Ceiriog) the following reference to the camp occurs:—"On the summit of a hill within a mile of the village, towards the N.W., is a very extensive circular encampment, defended by a double fosse, with an entrance on the w., near which are some large and detached masses of stone."

Visited May, 1913, Sept. 4, 1916, and July 8, 1926.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1882, p. 102; *Inventory*, No. 258, p. 80.]

ANCIENT ROADS.

I.

COURSE. One of these ancient roads starts from near "Caer Ogyrfan" or "Hen Dinas"—a prehistoric camp about a mile N.E. of Oswestry. Passing Pant Glas, it ascends to Llechrydau. Then, following the mountain ridge as far as Cefn-y-braich Uchaf, it begins to descend, past Moel-yr-Wylfa. After crossing the River Ceiriog it ascends by Stryt or Ystrad Fain to the top of the hill known as Ystrad Fawr. Later, it proceeds by Pen Rhewl and Pentre Uchaf to the mountain of Hafod Adams. Then it crosses another road at a spot called Croesau Cochion. Thence it leads past Carnedd Rhys Goch to Dolydd Ceiriog, and eventually to Llangar.

II.

Another old road comes from Montgomeryshire through Llanrhaiadr-ym-Mochnant, Cyndu, and Nant-y-Glog to Llanarmon village. Then wending its way up to the left of Pen-y-bryn, it crosses the other old road at Croesau Cochion. "Passing on hence to Glyndyfrdwy it wends onwards to Ial and Caergwrle, and thence to Chester (Deva)." The name of *Sarn Sws* is sometimes given to this road.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1882, p. 99.]

MOUND : CHURCHYARD.

SITE. This mound stands in Llanarmon Churchyard between the w. end of the church and the vicarage.

DESCRIPTION. The mound is slightly oval in shape, being about 20 paces in length by 18 in breadth. On the top in the centre stands a fairly large stone, said to have had at one time a sun-dial on it.

NAME. The mound is locally called "Poncyn Garmon" (Germanus' Bank). Gould and Fisher (*Lives of the British Saints*, vol. iii, p. 78) state: "In Llanfechain (formerly Llanarmon ym Mechain) on the N. side of the Church is a small mound called Twmpath Garmon, from which he is said to have preached. Similar mounds exist at Llanarmon Dyffryn Ceiriog and Castle Caereinion" (Patron Saint, Garmon).

Visited Nov. 1917, and subsequently.

PEN YR ORSEDD.

The site designated by this name is a conical hill, covered with trees, about 1 m. S.E. of Llanarmon village. No trace of a tumulus is visible on it.

Visited May 22, 1918.

STONE HAMMER : PENTRE.

DISCOVERY. This was discovered about 1872 by Miss Mary Edwards, then of Pentre farm, now (1927) of Bryn Llan, Efenechtyd, in Ffridd Las, the fourth field to the N.N.W. of the farmhouse of Pentre. The exact spot was 60 yds. or so from the hedge on the S.W. side of the field, about mid-way between the N. and S. hedges, where there was then a boggy part. The stone protruded out of the ground.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxviii, S.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 4' 26''$; long. $3^{\circ} 17' 25''$ (approx.).]

SUBSEQUENT HISTORY. The implement, the character of which was not recognised by the family, was preserved on the mantelpiece in the parlour of Pentre. A few years after the discovery, the Rev. John Peter, of the Independent College, Aberystwyth, who was on a lecturing and preaching tour, stayed at Pentre, and noticing the stone expressed a desire to acquire it. The implement having been presented to him, he said it would, at his death, be given, with other things, to the University College, Aberystwyth. This intention does not seem to have been carried out. The present location of the implement is not known.

BRONZE CELT : MYNYDD TARW.

DISCOVERY. This celt was found in 1875 or thereabouts by the late Mr. R. Jones, Cwm-y-geifr, Llanarmon, on Mynydd Tarw, a spur of the Berwyn, 2,230 ft. above sea level, about 3 m. W. of Llanarmon village. Mr. Jones was climbing the slope of the mountain when some turf gave way beneath his feet, thus revealing the celt.

DESCRIPTION. The celt was of the socketed variety. According to *Bye-gones* (Oswestry), vol. iii, p. 36 (April, 1876), it measured, in length, nearly 4 in., and in width, at the broadest part, 2 in., and weighed $6\frac{3}{4}$ ounces. On both sides it had four grooves running about half the length of the weapon.

SUBSEQUENT HISTORY. A relative of the finder, the late Mr. Thomas Williams, of Oswestry, into whose hands the implement passed, is stated on good authority to have deposited it in the College Museum at Aberystwyth.

In reply to an inquiry made in May, 1922, Prof. H. J. Fleure, D.Sc., F.S.A., wrote to the effect that at the time of the disastrous fire in 1885, when the college was burnt down, many specimens were lost, while others were separated from their labels. Among the surviving socketed celts was one measuring $4\frac{1}{4}$ by $2\frac{1}{4}$ in., and weighing 13 oz., with three ribs on either side.

BRONZE CELT: DOLWEN.

DISCOVERY. This was found about 1882 by Anne Hughes (of Clocaenog), who was housekeeper at Dolwen farm, in a field called Ffridd Newydd, which is about 500 yds. N.N.E. of the farmstead, on the N.W. slope of Mynydd Bach, some 400 yds. to the N.W. of Cerrig Gwynion camp. Miss Hughes had taken a meal out to the men who were working in the corn, and was binding a sheaf herself when she espied the celt. The implement eventually passed into the possession of the Rev. David Hughes, Calvinistic Methodist Minister at Trawsfynydd, Merionethshire, son of Gwen Hughes, sister to the finder.

DESCRIPTION. The celt is slightly flanged, the flange being embodied in the casting. The dimensions are: length, $3\frac{9}{16}$ in.; breadth, across the cutting edge, $2\frac{1}{8}$ in., across butt end, $\frac{5}{8}$ in.

PRESENT LOCATION. The celt was presented by the Rev. D. Hughes to the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff, in 1920.

Particulars of the discovery of the implement were obtained from Mrs. Evans, Llwythter, through her cousin, Mrs. Edwards, Dolwen, in June, 1926. For illustration see Fig. 34.

ROMAN COINS: SARFFLE.

DISCOVERY. While Mr. Thomas Griffiths, one of the tenants (under the Denbighshire Small Holdings Scheme) of Sarffle, Llanarmon D.C., was making a drain for a small surface stream, preparatory to ploughing, in an enclosed plot called Y Rofft on the lower slopes of the mountain just above the house, his pick crashed into a hoard of Roman coins in the hard subsoil about $\frac{3}{4}$ yd. below the surface. Some of the coins were cemented together through the action of corrosion. Originally they were no doubt wrapped in a piece of cloth or enclosed in a wooden or iron box, which, of course, had perished. The coins recovered numbered over 500. The finder thinks that he may have missed some through their having got mixed with the soil. The date of the discovery was March 19, 1918.

SITE. The exact spot where the find was made is in the middle of the field referred to, about 110 paces N.N.W. of the house of Sarffle

and 12 paces below the track that traverses the field. The coins seem to have lain under the bed of the little stream for which the drain was being made. Formerly the course of the stream is said to have been further w. Sarffle lies $\frac{3}{4}$ m. N.W. of the parish church of Llanarmon.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xli, N.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 53' 22''$; long. $3^{\circ} 16' 7''$.]

SUBSEQUENT HISTORY. In the summer of 1920 the coins—507 in number—after they had been lent to various people for inspection, were sent by Mr. T. Griffiths to Mr. G. F. Hill, of the Department of Coins and Medals, British Museum, who was anxious to examine them. Having completed his investigation, Mr. Hill purchased 30 specimens for the Museum*, the rest, with the exception of ten which the finder wished to retain in his own possession, being bought by a Collector, viz. Dr. L. A. Lawrence, of Hampstead. A few were distributed by Griffiths to different persons immediately after the discovery. Four came into the possession of Mr. L. V. Roberts, then of the Post Office, and Mr. Haydn Phillips, Motorist, Glyn Ceiriog, has one. These, it is understood, will be deposited in the Glyn Ceiriog Institute.

DESCRIPTION. The coins were all silver—denarii (the size of English sixpenny pieces), and belonged to the first three centuries of our era with the exception of 12, which were of an earlier date.

The following is an analysis, supplied by Mr. G. F. Hill, of the 507 examined at the Museum :—

Mark Antony, Triumvir (B.C. 42–30)	..	..	12
[“ Legionary denarii—saved by their base metal from the melting-pot ”]			
Nero, Emperor (A.D. 54–69)	..	..	1
Vespasian (A.D. 69–79)	..	..	21
Titus (79–81)	..	..	2
Domitian (81–96)	..	..	3
Trajan (98–117)	..	..	4
Hadrian (117–138)	..	..	2
Antoninus Pius (138–161)	..	..	14
Faustina I (wife of Antoninus)	..	..	7
Marcus Aurelius (161–180)	..	..	9
Faustina II (wife of Aurelius)	..	..	3
Commodus (180–192)	..	..	27
Pertinax (192)	..	..	1
Albinus (193–197)	..	..	1
Septimius Severus (193–211)	..	..	164
Julia Domna (wife of Severus)	..	..	66
Caracalla (211–217)	..	(2 Antoniniani)	81
Plautilla (wife of Caracalla)	..	..	2
Geta (211–212)	..	..	27
Macrinus (217–218)	..	..	6

* These were selected to fill gaps in the Museum Collection. Among them were coins of Commodus, Septimius Severus, Julia Domna, Caracalla, Macrinus, Elagabalus, and Alexander Severus.

Diadumenianus (son of Macrinus)	..	..	..	1
Elagabalus (218-222)	..	..	(1 Antoninianus)	31
Julia Maesa (Grandmother of Elagabalus)	..	..	..	8
Julia Soemias (Mother of Elagabalus)	..	..	..	3
Alexander Severus (222-234)	..	..	..	9
Julia Mamaea (wife of Severus)	..	..	..	2

The coins were in a good state of preservation, though many of them were slightly corroded. The quality of the metal used in the different reigns varied considerably, that of the coins of Vespasian, for instance, being particularly good, while that of those of Alexander Severus was very poor. It may be observed that denarii struck under Nero received 10 per cent of alloy, which amount was gradually increased to as much as 40 per cent by the reign of Alexander Severus. The debasement reached its limit between 260 and 270, when silver constituted hardly 5 per cent of the metal.

The writer examined on July 1, 1924, three coins (the fourth having been lost) in the possession of Mr. L. Victor Roberts, Post Office, Llanarmon. [Left for Manchester in 1927.] They are these :—

- (1) L. AURELIUS VERUS (161-169), Colleague of Marcus Aurelius (161-180).

Obverse : Head of Verus, to right.

Legend : IMP VERVS AVG.

Reverse : Providentia holding a globe in her right hand, and a horn of plenty in her left.

Legend : PROV DEOR TRP III COS.

- (2) ANTONINUS PIUS (138-161).

Obv. : Head of Antoninus, to right.

Leg. : [ANTONINVS]S AVG PIVS PP TRP.

Rev. : Figure, to left, laying a garland (?) on an altar.

Leg. : COS IIII.

- (3) HADRIAN (117-138). This has been made into a brooch.

Obv. : Head of Hadrian.

Leg. : IMP CAES TRAIAN HADRIANVS AVG.

Rev. : A female figure.

Leg. : P.M. TRP COS III. In the "field" : B[or R]R.

That in the possession of Mr. Haydn Phillips is one of Antoninus Pius.

CHARACTER OF HOARD. In a short account of the find in *The Numismatic Chronicle*, Fifth Series, Nos. 9, 10, pp. 152-155 (1922), Mr. Harold Mattingly, of the British Museum, makes the following remarks on the character of the hoard :—"Minor features of interest in this find are the comparatively large number of coins of Vespasian (21), the dearth of coins of Domitian (only 2 of his own reign) and Nerva (none), the presence of 3 Antoniniani among the denarii. The most curious feature, however, is the great number of coins falling within the reign of Septimius Severus—some 300 in all, if we include the coins of his family struck during his lifetime. After his death the numbers suffer a decided decline and fall away until the close under

Alexander Severus. The latest dated coin (probably the latest of the find) is of the year A.D. 226. Under these circumstances it is tempting to see some connexion with the British Campaigns of Severus; it is natural to suppose that, owing to the war, an unusually large amount of money poured into Britain at the time, and this find may be taken to furnish definite evidence for the supposition."

Coins examined May 1, and site visited May 2, 1918. Also May 22, 1918.

QUERN STONES.

I (CWM-Y-GEIFR).

This quern stone was discovered in 1897 by Mr. Edward Jones (died 1917), who was joint tenant with his brother, Mr. R. Jones, of Cwm-y-geifr farm, in ploughing a field bearing the name of Ffridd Gorlan Nant. Cwm-y-geifr is about $1\frac{3}{4}$ m. N.W. of the village of Llanarmon. The relic in question is a portion (about half) of an upper stone, measuring 18 in. in diameter. The orifice in the centre is 3 in. across. The surface is well grooved.

It is now kept at Dolwen, Llanarmon, Mrs. Richard Edwards having obtained it from the finder about 1900.

Seen in Sept., 1916, and July 8, 1926.

II (DOLWEN).

A fragment of another upper quern stone, found about 1916 by Mr. Richard Edwards, of Dolwen, in the little lane near the R. Ceiriog to the S. of the house, is also preserved at Dolwen.

Seen in June, 1918, and July 8, 1926.

LLANARMON YN IAL.

OSSIFEROUS CAVES: PERTHI CHWARAE AND RHOS DDIGRE.

I (PERTHI CHWARAE).

SITE. Perthi Chwarae farmstead is situated about $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. S. from Llanarmon Church, on the right-hand side of the road leading to Llandegla and Ruthin. The caves are on the left-hand side of the road in a field called "Erwi" or "Erwau."

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, N.W.]

EXPLORATION BY PROF. W. BOYD DAWKINS. The first intimation of any prehistoric remains in that locality was afforded* by a small box of bones forwarded to Prof. W. Boyd Dawkins (died Jan. 15, 1929) in 1869 by Charles Darwin, to whom they had been sent by Miss Godsal, of Iscoed Park. This intimation, Prof. Dawkins was able to follow up, from time to time, during the years 1869-70-71-72, with the co-operation of Mrs. Lloyd, of Rhagatt, the landowner, who invited him to undertake the examination of the site at Perthi Chwarae from which the remains had been obtained.

* See Boyd Dawkins's *Cave Hunting* (1874), v, pp. 149 f., and *Arch. Camb.*, 1921, p. 411.

Writing of the physical character of the locality, Prof. Boyd Dawkins states that the mountain limestone which there formed hill and valley consisted of thick masses of hard rock, separated by soft beds of shale, and contained large quantities of *producti*, crinoids and corals. The strata dipped to the s. at an angle of about one in twenty-five, and formed two parallel ridges, with abrupt faces to the north, and separated from each other by a narrow valley passing E. and W. along the strike. Both the above-mentioned ridges yielded interesting remains.

1. NORTHERN RIDGE. "The remains sent by Mr. Darwin"—all bones—"were obtained from a space between two strata near the top of the northern ridge, whence the intervening softer material had been carried away by water. Its maximum height [i.e. of the 'space'] was six inches and its width 20 ft. or more, and it extended in a direction parallel to the bedding of the rock." The bones had been washed in by rain, there having been near the spot a refuse-heap containing relics of the food of the people who inhabited that district in prehistoric times. The refuse-heap, to quote Dr. Dawkins, "has now altogether disappeared from the surface of the ground from the action of the rain . . . while those portions of it which chanced to be washed into the strata have been preserved to mark the spot which it once occupied."

Describing his first visit to the site, Sir W. B. Dawkins stated, at the 1921 Annual Meeting of the Cambrian Archaeological Association (*Arch. Camb.*, 1921, p. 411): "On driving some 6 miles [i.e. from Rhagatt, where he arrived the previous day and found a houseful of guests invited to witness the work which was to begin on the morrow] to the site of the refuse heap we found a large party watching the workmen who were quarrying the limestone on which the refuse-heap had rested. The only traces of it were small traces of bones that had dropped into the crevices and joints of the rock."

The "refuse-heap" was on the rock between the house of Perthi Chwarae and the road where the limestone quarry is still to be seen. The tenant at the time of the excavation was Mr. Ed. Jones, father to Mrs. Beach, wife of the present tenant, who showed the writer the site in question Sept. 20, 1922.

[Sheet xxvii, N.W. : lat. 53° 4' 29" ; long. 3° 12' 46".]

FINDS. The bones discovered washed into the strata at the spot where the refuse-heap once stood were those of

DOG (<i>canis familiaris</i>).	GOAT (<i>capra hircus</i>).
FOX (<i>canis vulpes</i>).	CELTIC SHORTHORN (<i>bos longifrons</i>).
BADGER (<i>meles taxus</i>).	HORSE (<i>equus caballus</i>).
PIG (<i>sus scrofa</i>).	WATER RAT (<i>arvicola amphibius</i>).
ROE-DEER (<i>cervus capreolus</i>).	HARE (<i>lepus timidus</i>).
RED-DEER (<i>cervus elaphus</i>).	RABBIT (<i>lepus cuniculus</i>).

"Nearly all the bones were broken, and belonged to young animals. Those of the Celtic Shorthorn, of the sheep or goat, and of the young pig were very abundant : while those of the roe and stag, hare and horse were comparatively rare. The remains of the domestic dog were

rather abundant, and the percentage of young puppies implies also that they, like the other animals, had been used for food."

"There was nothing in the deposit that fixes the date of its accumulation. It may have been of the stone, bronze or iron age; but from the presence of the goat, short-horn ox, and dog, it certainly does not date so far back as the epoch of the reindeer, mammoth, rhinoceros and cave hyaena."

2. SOUTHERN RIDGE. Noticing a small depression in the side of a low ridge of limestone in an adjacent field, which formed a kind of rock-shelter, overlooking the valley where there were burrows of rabbits, etc., Prof. Boyd Dawkins set two men to explore it with pickaxe and shovel, with the result that the mouth of a tunnel-cave was exposed. This penetrated the rocks in a line parallel to the bedding, and, roughly speaking, at right angles to the valley, having a width varying from 3 ft. 4 in. to 5 ft. 6 in., and a height from 3 ft. 4 in. to 4 ft. 6 in.

"The entrance was blocked up with red earth and loose stones, the latter apparently having been placed there by design. The inside was filled with red earth and sand to within a foot of the roof. The remains [to be described under FINDS] were found, for the most part, on or near the top; but in some cases they were deep down."

The work of clearing the cave was carried on during six days, and was conducted partly under the supervision of Mr. Dawkins, who stayed at the Hand Inn, Llandegla, and partly under that of Mrs. Lloyd, of Rhagatt, and her agent, Mr. Reid.

This cave is apparently the one to be seen from the road in the field, over the way from the farmhouse, called "Erwi." The cave is almost opposite the gate.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, N.W. : lat. 53° 4' 24"; long. 3° 12' 44".]

FINDS. In the "rock-shelter" were found bones belonging to the dog, marten-cat, fox, badger, goat, shorthorn, roe-deer and stag, horse, and large birds. Mixed with these, farther in, were human remains—those belonging to no fewer than five individuals.

In the "cave" the following discoveries were made:—A skull found deep down only 6 in. from the rocky floor; a human femur in a perpendicular position; another skull—nearly perfect, resting on a femur; a large quantity of bones, including nine femurs; another skull again "face downwards with the pelvis adhering to one side." This latter was found near the end of the cave. In the same spot was also discovered a broken flint flake—the only implement brought to light.

The human remains were, for the most part, those of individuals—16 at least—ranging from infancy to adolescence, but a few those of middle-aged persons. "All the teeth that had been used were ground perfectly flat." The skulls belonged to that type which Prof. Huxley terms "river-bed skull." Some of the tibiae, i.e. shin-bones, were of the description known as *platycnemic* (πλατύς=flat, wide, and κνήμη=tibia). This "remarkable peculiarity [was] then

for the first time recognised in any British leg-bone." The shin-bones "were very much compressed or flattened in a plane parallel to the median line, and indicate the *platycnemic* character of the people to whom they belong."

The disposition of the human bones in the cave points to the conclusion that the corpses had been buried there, and in a contracted posture, which was that usual in neolithic interments.

The animal remains found in the cave, in addition to those found elsewhere, were: the tusk of wild boar of "remarkable size," and an incisor; the shells of the mussel and cockle, and valve of *mya truncata*.

[*Cave Hunting* (W. Boyd Dawkins), ch. v, pp. 149 ff.; *Arch. Camb.*, 1872, pp. 22 ff.; *Inventory*, Nos. 268, 269, pp. 84, 85.]

II (RHOS DDIGRE).

SITE. Four other sepulchral caves within a few hundred yards of the refuse-heap were explored. Three of these were apparently those in a field called Erw Ysgubor, just in front of the farmhouse, Rhos Isaf, about a quarter-of-a-mile farther from Llanarmon than the Perthi Chwarae caves, and on the side (E.) of the road. One of the caves, in Erw Ysgubor—the northernmost—is a semi-circle with two entrances. The other two are at present walled up. There is also another cave in a field bearing the name of Hanner Cynffon close by.

EXPLORATION. It is of the exploration of one only of these that we have any particulars mentioned in *Cave Hunting*, and that is the one described as the Rhos Digre cave, situated about 300 yds. to the s.w. of Perthi Chwarae. This cave may be the larger of the two walled-up ones in Erw Ysgubor field, which would be double the distance mentioned to the s. of Perthi Chwarae. The cave in question "ran nearly horizontally into the rock, and was blocked up with earth and large masses of stone." These having been removed from the entrance, the cave was found to expand "into a chamber, the dimensions of which it was impossible to form an idea of, as it was filled up to the roof with *débris*."

FINDS. The bones found here were the same as those found in the other caves, with the addition of those of a bear. There were also skeletons of human beings in a sitting posture.

Amongst other finds may be mentioned (1) "fragments of rude black pottery . . . composed of clay worked up with small pieces of stone, to prevent fracture while it was being subjected to the fire." On one piece there was an attempt at ornamentation; (2) a "remarkably fine flint flake rather over three inches in length"; (3) a "beautiful polished axe made of greenstone and with the edge uninjured by use"; (4) a few splinters of flint and a scraper.

A brief reference to two other caves is found in an article by W. Wynne Ffoulkes in *Arch. Camb.* for 1872, p. 31, who quotes from papers by Prof. W. B. Dawkins in the *Journal* of the Ethnological Society of London, 1871 (January), and in *Nature*, Sept. 14, 1871:—"A third cave running into the rock parallel with the last at a distance

of twelve feet contained similar remains of men and animals; as well as a Fourth which stands about half-way between Perthi Chwareu and those of Rhos Digre."

PRESENT LOCATION OF FINDS. The remains discovered in the Perthi Chwarae and Rhos Ddigre caves are at present preserved at



FIG. 50—FLINTS FROM RHOS DDIGRE CAVE.

Rhagatt, where the writer examined them on July 21, 1927, by the kind permission of Mrs. Lousada Lloyd. It is Mrs. Lloyd's intention to present them to the National Museum of Wales, to be exhibited in North Wales.

The remains consist of bones, flint implements, fragments of pottery, and a stone celt.

(a) *Bones.* Among these are two human skulls, one whole and one broken—broken before burial; a lower jaw; the rib of a young child, broken and re-united; a platycnemic tibia; various animal bones.

(b) *Flint Implements.* These, which number nine, are knives and scrapers of various sizes and shapes, the largest, white in colour, being $3\frac{3}{4}$ in. long; another, of white flint, measuring $1\frac{5}{8}$ in. long and nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ in. broad; a third, circular in shape, about $1\frac{3}{4}$ in. by $1\frac{1}{2}$ in.

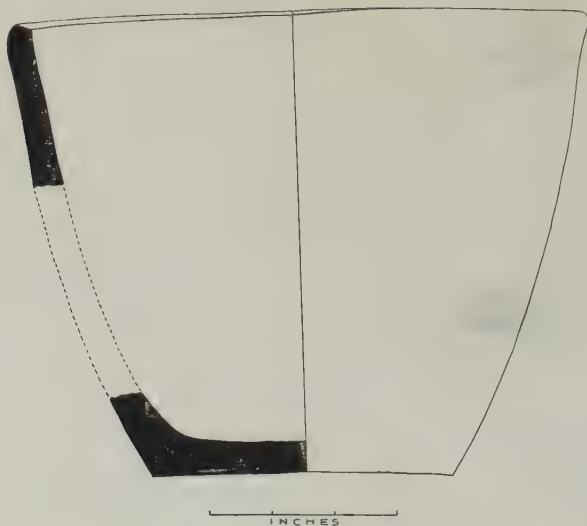


FIG. 51—NEOLITHIC VESSEL.

(c) *Pottery.* There are eight fragments altogether, seven belonging to one vessel and one representing another. The latter, which is a piece of a rim, about 2 in. by 1 in., has a simple ornament consisting of punched depressions—three in number—about $\frac{1}{2}$ in. apart. The largest fragment of the other vessel measures 3 in. by $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. The inside of this vessel was black and the outside drab, with no ornamentation. When whole it measured 9 in. in diameter across the mouth and 5 in. across the base. Its height is uncertain, but may have been about $7\frac{1}{2}$ in.

(d) *Stone Celt.* This is $4\frac{1}{8}$ in. long, $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. across the cutting edge, and $\frac{3}{4}$ in. across the butt end. It is of a dark colour and polished practically all over. The cutting edge is almost perfect, but the butt end seems to have been a little damaged. It is made of Graig Lwyd stone. In a letter dated Dec. 9, 1926, written in reply to an inquiry about the celt, Sir W. Boyd Dawkins wrote: "It is of a very compact grey green felsite, which probably came from the neolithic workshop near Penmaenmawr, whence in my opinion most of the North Welsh felsite axes were derived, being polished at leisure at

home." The photographs of the finds were kindly supplied by Mrs. Lousada Lloyd, of Rhagatt.



FIG. 52—STONE AXE, RHOS DDIGRE CAVE (ACTUAL SIZE).

Caves visited in 1913 and subsequently.

[*Cave Hunting*, v., p. 156 ; *Inventory*, No. 269, p. 85.]

CAIRNS: MOEL Y WAUN.

I.

SITE. This stands on the boundary line between the parishes of Llanarmon and Llanfair D.C., about midway between Breninlle Fawr in the former parish and Fron Heulog in the latter, close to the foot-path that leads from one to the other. A tumbled-down stone wall and wire fence cross the cairn.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 11''$; long. $3^{\circ} 14' 22''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The circumference is about 60 paces, and present height 3 ft. The stones of which it is composed are mixed with a

considerable quantity of soil, and gorse grows on it. There is abundant evidence of disturbance. Much of the stone was no doubt used for building the wall that runs over the cairn. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

Seen Nov. 5, 1928.

II.

SITE. This stands on the summit of an elevated part of the ridge, about 180 yds. N.N.E. of No. 1. It likewise is crossed by the fallen wall and wire fence.

[Lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 18''$; long. $3^{\circ} 14' 27''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The cairn is clearly traceable only on the Llanarmon, i.e. E., side of the wire fence. On the Llanfair side there has been much disturbance in connection with the fence. The circumference would seem to have been about 36 paces, and the present height of the remaining portion about 2 ft. Turf hides the stones almost altogether. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

Seen May 9 and Nov. 5, 1928.

TUMULI : TYN-Y-LLAN.

SITE. These stand in a field belonging to Tyn-y-llan farm, called Cae-llo, close to the E. hedge, about 240 yds. to the S.S.E. of the parish church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xx, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 5' 40\cdot5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 12' 25''$ (No. 1).]

DESCRIPTION. 1. The one nearest to the stream (Alun) and the church is 52 paces in circumference at the base and about 5 ft. high. It is conical in shape and composed of soil in which a number of fairly large stones are embedded, some of which seem to be those of a kerb or circle. It has not been disturbed at all. Altitude : above contour line 700.

2. Seven paces to the S. is another tumulus, which has been at some time or other dug into, a wide opening having apparently been made from the W. to the centre. It presents the appearance of having undergone considerable disturbance. Its circumference measures about 70 paces, and its height 4 ft. It is composed of soil and covered with turf.

This may be one of those tumuli near the village of Llanarmon mentioned in Lewis's *Topographical Dictionary* (s.v. Llanarmon) as having been opened in 1827 and 1831. [See p. 175.]

Seen Dec. 10, 1924.

TUMULUS : NURSE FAWR.

SITE. This is situated at the top of the pass between Moel y Plas and Poncyn y Waun Grogen, close to (on the W. of) the wood known as Nurse Fawr, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. of Llanarmon Church and $\frac{1}{2}$ m. W.S.W. of Llyn Gweryd.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xx, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 5' 4''$; long. $3^{\circ} 14' 29''$.]

DESCRIPTION. It is composed of soil and covered with turf and gorse bushes, and measures about 90 paces in circumference and 6 ft. in height. It has not been disturbed except just a little on the summit, by a rabbit catcher perhaps. Elevation: above contour line 1,000.

Seen Sept. 28, 1925.

TUMULUS: MOEL Y PLAS.

SITE. This stands on the summit of Moel y Plas (belonging to Plas Llanarmon), a mile and a quarter to the w.s.w. of Llanarmon village.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xx, s.w.: lat. $53^{\circ} 5' 21.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 14' 20''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The dimensions are: circumference, 52 paces; height, $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. The material is soil, on which grass, heather, and wimberry bushes grow. The surface is somewhat uneven owing to rabbits having burrowed holes in the mound. Elevation: 1,443 ft. above Ordnance datum.

Seen Nov. 4, 1924.

TUMULUS: LLWYN Y FRÂN.

SITE. This stands $1\frac{3}{4}$ m. N.N.W. of Llanarmon village, in a field belonging to Llwyn y Frân farm, and called Parc y Llygoden. The field is the next but one to a Wesleyan Chapel (Bethesda), on the w. side of the road to Llanferres. The tumulus is at the s. corner of the field, near the gate to the road.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xx, N.W.: lat. $53^{\circ} 7' 6''$; long. $3^{\circ} 13' 1''$.]

DESCRIPTION. It measures about 100 paces in circumference and 4 ft. in height. The soil of which it is composed is different from that of the field around, being of a clayey nature. The field, when visited, was under corn, which grew less vigorously on the mound. Elevation: above contour line 600.

Seen June 27, 1923.

TUMULUS: SAITH DARREN.

SITE. This is in the field—Cae'r Werddon—immediately to the s. of Saith Darren farmhouse, some 98 paces from the latter and 37 from the E. hedge.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, N.W.: lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 3''$; long. $3^{\circ} 12' 53''$.]

DESCRIPTION. It is covered with turf and undisturbed. Circumference about 62 paces and height 2 ft. It may possibly be natural but has every appearance of being a tumulus. Elevation: above contour line 1,000.

Seen Oct. 11, 1923.

EXCAVATED TUMULI.

I.

REFERENCES. 1. The following account of the excavation of a tumulus in this parish, preserved in one of the MSS. left by the late Rev. John Lloyd, Rector of Nannerch from 1774 to 1778, and of Caerwys from 1778 to 1794, a native of Llanarmon yn Ial Parish (born at Brown Hall; old name, Hen Aelwyd), and coadjutor of Thomas Pennant, was sent by his daughter, Miss Angharad Llwyd, to *Arch. Camb.* for 1847 (p. 372): "June 9th 1774. Employed people to open the remainder of a tumulus in a field called Kefrydd, not far from Tommen y Faerdre, in Llanarmon. When Mr. Pennant and I came there, we found they had demolished one urn that morning; that which was found whilst we were present, was of unburnt clay, full of calcined bones, and undoubtedly bones, ashes, etc., converted into more earth; its circumference at the base, two feet two inches, the height eight inches and half. It lay with its face downwards upon a flat rude stone. Over it lay a covering of exceeding fine mould, over that a large flat stone, supported at each end by other stones, to prevent its crushing the urn to pieces. I saw in this tumulus several human bones uncalcined. N.B. Great part of this tumulus had been before mixed with lime, and carried off for the purpose of manuring the field. By the information of the proprietor of the land, several urns and several skeletons went into the compost."

2. Thomas Pennant, in his *Tours* (ed. J. Rhys, vol. ii, p. 18), refers to the same excavation in the following terms:—"Sepulchral *tumuli* are very frequent in this parish (Llanarmon). I was present at the opening of one, composed of loose stone and earth, covered with a layer of soil about two feet thick, and over that with a coat of verdant turf. In the course of our search were discovered, towards the middle of the tumulus, several urns made of sun-burnt clay, of a reddish color on the outside, black within, being stained with the ashes they contained. Each was placed with the mouth downwards on a flat stone; above each was another stone, to preserve it from being broken by the weight above. Mixed with the loose stones were numerous fragments of bones; such as parts of the thigh-bones, the arm-bones, and even a skull. These had escaped the effects of the fire of the funeral pile, and were deposited about the urns; which contained the residuum of the corpse, that had been reduced to pure ashes."

SITE. As given in the first reference above, the name of the field near Tomen y Faerdre, which is situated immediately to the E. of Llanarmon village, viz. Kefrydd, is no doubt an error, and may possibly represent Cefnydd (Ridges). That name, however, is not known in the neighbourhood of Tomen y Faerdre, but there is a field—the second—to the S. of the Tomen called Cefn Canol (Cae Canol in the Tithe Schedule), and belonging to Tyn-y-llan, in which are evident traces of a tumulus, that is, 230 yds. S. of Tomen y Faerdre. The remains—a circular, raised and uncultivated patch about 42 paces in circumference (in 1916)—are about 40 paces from the S.E. corner of the field. When re-visited in December, 1924, part of the

site was found to have been recently cultivated, with the stones dug out piled up on the spot. The outline of the tumulus is still clearly visible, and three kerb stones remain embedded in the ground. The diameter of the area enclosed by the kerb would be seven paces.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xx, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 5' 39''$; long. $3^{\circ} 12' 17''$.]

Spot visited Sept. 11, 1916 ; Dec. 10, 1924 ; and Mch. 9, 1925.

II.

S. Lewis's *Topographical Dictionary of Wales* (s.v. Llanarmon) states that "in 1810 one of the largest [tumuli] was opened in the township of Gelliguanan and found to contain a skeleton of a horse and his rider, in a position in which they might have fallen : near the ribs of the horse was found a brass spur, weighing seventeen ounces."

III.

Lewis's *Topographical Dictionary* also states that in 1827 a mound was "opened near the village of Llanarmon, in which was discovered an urn of baked clay, with three skulls and various other bones lying within a circular enclosure of stones near it."

IV.

The same Dictionary adds that, within a short distance of the last mentioned, another tumulus was opened in 1831, "and near its centre were discovered three urns of coarse clay, the largest of which, containing about 3 quarts, was filled with fine grey ashes : near them were several bones, a copper coin of the Emperor Nero, a fibula of copper, gilt and enamelled, and a plain ring of the same metal."

TUMULI : TURNPIKE.

REFERENCE. Fenton, in *Tours in Wales*, edited by Canon Fisher, 1917, pp. 137-8, describing his journey from Llangollen to Ruthin, writes : "We cross the Ridge that comes direct from Bala towards Chester, and over which, Sir Richard Hoare is very judiciously of Opinion a Road went from Caergai to Holt, and so to Chester. . . . See at the edge of this mountain tract, on the slope of it towards the vale, 2 tumuli, and a little further on Tommen y Rhodwydd, evidently a Fortification of the Castelet kind. . . ."

IDENTIFICATION. 1. One of the tumuli in question seems to be in the field over the way from, and to the N. of, Nant y Garth Turnpike, which stands at the junction of the old and new roads from Ruthin. The north hedge of the old road goes over the S. slope of the tumulus. It is not easy to measure the mound, but it seems to be from 60 to 70 paces in circumference and 4 ft. in height. Its sides show signs of having been tampered with. Four stones slightly protrude from the lower slopes of the mound, but possibly too high up to be part of a retaining circle or kerb. Three or four trees grow on it. The field belongs to Plas Newydd.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 22''$; long. $3^{\circ} 13' 28''$.]

2. A little further on towards the Vale, there is in the field (Cae Coed) immediately to the N. of Tynewydd and to the W. of the road

to Llanarmon, quite near the same Turnpike, what appears very much like another tumulus. It is about 90 paces in circumference and 5 ft. high.

3. In the next field again (Cae Pant), the one immediately to the N. of Castell and the old road to Ruthin, there is a large circular hillock, about 120 paces in circumference and 4 ft. high, which looks like a tumulus. This, however, is not quite regular in shape, and may be natural.

4. There is also a hillock, similar to No. 2, in the field between Tyn-y-pwll and the new road to Ruthin, and opposite Tomen-y-Rhodwydd. This, like the last, may be natural.

Inspected July 12, 1922.

CAIRNS: MOEL GAREGOG.

I.

SITE. This stands on the highest point (1,354 ft.) of Moel Garegog, a mountain to the E. of Llandegla village, between the roads leading respectively to Wrexham and Mold.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 50''$; long. $3^{\circ} 10' 16''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The cairn has been very much disturbed and the stones scattered about, with the result that its original circumference is difficult to ascertain. It might be about 34 or 46 paces. The present height is 2 ft. A little hut of stones has been erected on the remains.

II.

Ten yards or so to the s.w. is another heap of stones about 20 yds. in circumference and 1 ft. high, which may be a small cairn.

III.

On another eminence, $\frac{1}{4}$ m. to the s.w. of No. 1, are the meagre remains of a fairly large cairn overgrown with heather. In the centre is a pile of stones raised in recent times. Elevation: above contour line 1,250.

Seen Dec. 3, 1928.

CAIRN: LLYN CYFYNWY.

SITE. This stands on one of the eminences in the moorland surrounding Llyn Cyfynwy, which is a little under 2 m. to the s.e. of Llanarmon village. The exact site is a few hundred yards to the w. of the s.w. end of the lake. The landlord is Capt. Powys Dewhurst, of Bodidris.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xx, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 5' 2''$; long. $3^{\circ} 10' 26''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The circumference is about 65 paces and the height about 6 ft. Between the stones forming the cairn is some soil, out of which heather grows and covers the whole. There are no signs that the cairn has been disturbed, though from a distance a slight depression is noticeable on the N.E. side. Elevation: above contour line 1,000.

Visited Nov. 13, 1924.

TUMULUS: BWLCH LLECH.

SITE. This tumulus is situated about $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. slightly to the s. of w. from Llanarmon village, at the top of the pass (bwlch) over which the road from that village to Llanfair and Ruthin crosses. The exact spot is on the s. side of the road close to the hedge. The land belongs to Plas Llanarmon.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xx, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 5' 35''$; long. $3^{\circ} 14' 31''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The tumulus is about 77 paces in circumference, varying in height on different sides from 3 to 6 ft. The top at present is flat, measuring eight paces across, and at the centre is a depression, indicating that the upper part of the mound has been tampered with. The sides are somewhat steep. It is composed of gravelly soil, and covered with bracken, heather, and gorse. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. In a MS. account of a Perambulation of the boundaries of Llanfair Parish, made by the Vicar and parishioners, May 29, 1810, kept at the Vicarage, is the following passage:—
“ . . . Moel Llanfair, otherwise called Coesau'r Cawr, and then down to Bwlch y llech, and then crossing the road leading from Llanarmon to Ruthin where there are two lead mine pit hillocks, so on between them along a green path up Mynydd bychan to the top, and went along the ridge until we came to the top of Moel Nanmor where there is a hillock or barrow. . . . ”

One of the “ lead mine pit hillocks ” referred to in the foregoing extract is the tumulus described above, the other being in Llanfair D.C. Parish. In regarding the mounds in question as mine heaps the Vicar (the Rev. James Jones) was, no doubt, mistaken. The one now under consideration, it is true, somewhat resembles a mine hillock owing to its having steep sides and flat top, with a hole in the centre, but there are no other signs in the immediate vicinity of lead mine workings.

Seen Nov. 4, 1924, and July 28, 1926.

CAIRN: MOEL GIW.

SITE. Moel Giw is a mountain 1,531 ft. in altitude, about a mile-and-a-half n.w. of Llanarmon village. The cairn is on its summit. The mountain is most easily ascended from Bwlch Uchaf on the Ruthin and Mold road. Owner in 1923, H. Arundel, Esq., Gelli Gynan, Llanarmon; tenant: Mr. J. H. Jones, of Cyfnant.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xx, n.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 6' 30''$; long. $3^{\circ} 14' 16''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The mound, which is composed of soil and small stones, and covered more or less with heather, like the surrounding ground, is about 63 paces in circumference and $4\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. There is a shallow trench all round. The top is flat and has in the centre a slight depression.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. It is mentioned in a list of Denbighshire Tumuli in *Arch. Camb.*, 1855 (pp. 262 ff.), by the Rev. H. Longueville Jones, who thought it might be a “ beacon station.”

Seen March 20, 1923.

VANISHED CAIRN : BEDD Y GWR HIR.

REFERENCE. In a letter addressed to Ed. Lhuyd, of the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, and dated, "Blaen-y-ddol . . . Castell Rhydwydd, Dec. 20, 1693 [Ashmole MS., vol. iii (1816), p. 232]," John Lloyd, that is, the Warden of Ruthin and brother of D. Lloyd, Blaen-y-ddol, after describing "Castell . Rhydwydd" [i.e. Tomen y Rhodwydd], writes: "Ab^t 1½ m. further exactly upon y^e same road there is Bedh y Gŵrhir. They tell me y^t it is an oblong carnedh upon y^e top of y^e hill. An Longini cujusdam Tumulus . . . I c^d not compass to give it a visit by day light. Nor do I think it worth another day, it being so well known and nothing to be seen ab^t it but a heap of stones."

SITE. Careful inquiries have failed to elicit any information about the cairn in question. The name and site are now unknown. There is, however, about 1½ m. E. of Tomen y Rhodwydd, in Llandegla Parish, some 250 yds. N.W. of the Crown Inn, which is on the main road to Wrexham, a field bearing the name of Erw Garnedd, but at present showing no traces of a cairn.

PREHISTORIC BURIAL : BODIDRIS.

DISCOVERY. Somewhere about the year 1890, a roadman, while quarrying stone for road metal at Boncyn-y-Porthmon, near the road from Llandegla to Rhyd Talog, exactly a mile from the latter place, came upon, 4½ ft. below the surface, a cistfaen with capstone, 3¼ ft. long, 2 ft. wide, and 3 ft. deep.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, N.E. : lat. 53° 4' 40.5"; long. 3° 9' 54".]

REMAINS. Inside the cist were found a human skull and other bones. Also an earthenware vessel, reddish outside and black inside, about a foot in height, and capable of holding about three quarts. No ornamentation was noticed on the urn.

SUBSEQUENT HISTORY. Immediately after the discovery the roadman communicated with Sir W. Grenville Williams, of Bodidris and Bodelwyddan, who was shooting on the moor close by, and the remains were conveyed to Bodidris in the vehicle that brought lunch for the shooters, and deposited in the tool-house in the garden. Mr. J. Jones, formerly of Ty-hir, but now of Pant, Llandegla, told the writer that he was working in the garden of Bodidris at the time, and saw the remains arriving. The urn was broken into about six fragments. These Jones frequently tried to piece together. What eventually became of the urn is not known. A man from London came and took some of the bones away.

RELICS OF CIST. There is at present no trace of the grave at Poncyn y Porthmon, but one of the stones of the cist still lies on the ground near the spot. This measures 42 × 24 × 9 in. Two others—the covering stone and one of the head-stones—are to be seen at Ty-hir, having been conveyed there by Mr. J. Jones, now of Pant. The former stone, which Jones reduced in size to 32 in., serves as a bridge across a small gutter in front of the house, and the latter, which is 2 ft. long, forms part of the edge of a pavement in front of the pigsty.

AUTHORITY. Information was obtained from Mr. E. W. Jones, Mill Farm, Llandegla, who was interviewed, July 12, 1922, and from Mr. J. Jones, referred to already, who showed the writer the site of the burial and the stones at Ty-hir, Sept. 20, 1923.

ANCIENT BURIAL: BRYN YR ORSEDD.

REFERENCE. In a letter dated "Llandecla, May 23, 1696," but unsigned, copied by Miss Angharad Llwyd, and preserved in one of her MS. books at the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth, viz. N.L.W. MS. 1565 c [Kinmel MS. 65], p. 88, is the following reference to the discovery of the burial in question:—"At Bryn yr Orsedd, at the upper end of Rhos pen Arllor, by Llanarmon, men digging for lime stone, found a grave, viz. a stone on one side, about three yards long, and on the other side, another, about the same length. The breadth, or distance between each was about a yard—there were stones placed across these, from one end to the other. They found in this space, at least two skulls, which were very thick and firm, but little or nothing bigger than usual—from Anthony Jones who dug them." This letter was no doubt written to Edward Lhuyd, of the Ashmolean, Oxford, possibly by the Rector of Llandegla, the Rev. Ed. Roberts (1685–1709).

SITE. Bryn yr Orsedd is a farm situated 2 m. N. of the village of Llanarmon, and about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. of the road to Llanferres. The term Orsedd (radical form, Gorsedd) is one of the commonest names in North Wales for a tumulus, but there is at present no trace of a tumulus on the farm. In the *Parochialia* i, p. 157, the following entry appears:—"Some small tumuli at Rhôs Bryn Alhor." The latter name is now unknown locally, but in the letter given above Bryn yr Orsedd is stated to be at the upper end of Rhos Pen Arllor ['Rallor?]. Lime-stone, it may be added, is abundant at Bryn yr Orsedd.

Visited Nov. 13, 1924.

EXPLORED CAVE: NEAR VILLAGE.

SITE. This is a large cave in the lime-stone rock just outside the village of Llanarmon, at the N.E. end, and on the opposite side of the road to Tomen-y-Faerdre.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xx, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 5' 50''$; long. $3^{\circ} 12' 2''$.]

EXPLORATION. The cave was partly explored in 1905 by the late Mr. Rouw, Chemist, Ruthin, and others. The only find made was a finely-worked flint arrowhead, broken in two, measuring about $\frac{3}{4}$ in. in length. This was shown to the writer by Mr. Rouw in May, 1913. Since Mr. Rouw's death, which occurred not long afterwards, it has been lost sight of.

MOUND: TYNMYNYDD.

SITE. This is situated about 25 paces to the N. of the main road from Ruthin to Wrexham, about 2 m. E. of Llandegla village, in a boggy field belonging to Tan-y-lan.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 35''$; long. $3^{\circ} 9' 23''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The mound in question is 70 paces in circumference, and from 10 to 12 ft. in height. Its sides, which are steep, betray signs of having been cut up a good deal on the s. side. The material of which it is composed is gravel. Gorse and grass grow on it. The ground around is swampy. It has the appearance of being artificial. Elevation : above contour line 900.

Seen July 23, 1925.

STONE CELT : BRYNIAU.



FIG. 53—STONE AXE, BRYNIAU.

DISCOVERY. A stone celt was discovered in the summer of 1922 by Mr. Herbert P. Lewis, Lecturer in Geology in Sheffield University, and his brother, Mr. C. Clark Lewis, "just below the 900 ft. level, in

a heap of fragments of rock, mainly limestone, lying at the foot of a small exposure of Carboniferous Limestone, on the western side of a dry valley running from N. to S. west of Bryniau.' The exact spot is 200 yds. W. of the farmhouse, and about $2\frac{3}{4}$ m. slightly to the W. of S. of Llanarmon Parish Church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 40''$; long. $3^{\circ} 13' 43''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The celt, which is polished, is practically entire, and does not seem to have been used. It is made of the Graig Lwyd rock, Penmaenmawr. Its dimensions are : length, $5\frac{1}{3}$ in. ; width at cutting edge about $2\frac{1}{3}$ in., and greatest thickness slightly over $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. At the butt end the width is less than $\frac{3}{4}$ in. It is possible that originally this end terminated in a point.

PRESENT LOCATION. The axe is preserved in the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1924, pp. 404-8.]

CIRCULAR STONE HAMMER : RHIW IAL.



FIG. 54—PERFORATED CIRCULAR STONE, RHIW IAL (ABOUT $\frac{2}{3}$).

DISCOVERY. This was found in 1913 by Mr. E. Griffith Jones, now of Maes y Llan, in ploughing a field called Cae Bedlwyn, belonging to the farm of Rhiw Ial, of which he was then tenant. At the time

of discovery it lay about 6 in. below the surface of the ground. In all probability it had been dug up from a greater depth by the "cultivator" which had been operating in the field. The find-spot is some 360 yds. to the N. of the farmstead.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xx, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 6' 6''$; long. $3^{\circ} 13' 48''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The stone is slightly oval, with parallel faces and rounded edges. The greater diameter is $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. and the lesser 4 in. ; thickness, 2 in. The perforation is hour-glass form in section, having been bored from both faces ; its diameter in the centre is $\frac{3}{4}$ in., and at the surfaces, $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. Its sides are quite smooth. The external surface of the stone is weathered, and in places a little damaged as if by being used as a hammer. The stone is a granite and very heavy for its size : weight, 1 lb. 9 oz.

PRESENT LOCATION. The implement has been deposited in the Grosvenor Museum, Chester.

First seen Sept. 18, 1928.

SPINDLE WHORL : TOMEN Y FAERDRE.

A whorl, nearly $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter and $\frac{5}{8}$ in. in depth, was picked up by Mr. R. O. Jones, Argoed, Ruthin, about 1905, from a stone-heap on the side of the road near Tomen y Faerdre, Llanarmon. It is now in the possession of the writer.

LLANBEDR.

CAIRN : MOEL FENLLI.

SITE. This is situated on the highest point of Moel Fenlli, in the E. portion of the camp, 70 yds. or so from the inner rampart.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xx, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 7' 51.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 14' 55''$.]

DESCRIPTION. Only the lower part of the cairn is left, the circumference being about 50 paces. The present height varies from 2 ft. to 4 ft. The remains are partly covered with heather. In the centre is a modern pile of stones. Elevation : 1,676 ft. above Ordnance datum.

Seen Aug. 2, 1927.

TUMULI : MOEL EITHINEN.

I.

SITE. One is situated on the w. slope of Moel Eithinen, about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. from the summit, and a little under $\frac{1}{2}$ m. E.S.E. of Cae Mawr farmstead.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xix, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 7' 20''$; long. $3^{\circ} 15' 19''$ (approximate).]

DESCRIPTION. This is very small in size, being only 20 paces in circumference, and 1 ft. in height. It is composed of soil and covered with turf. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

II.

The other stands about 360 paces to the w. of No. 1, on a bit of a slope facing E. It is 9 paces across and about 1 ft. high. It has been very much cut about. Its material is soil.

Seen Sept. 30, 1927.

CAMP: MOEL FENLLI.

SITE. Moel Fenlli, a hill 1,676 ft. in altitude, is situated about $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. E.N.E. of Llanbedr Church. Ascent is easiest from Bwlch Pen Barras, the pass about 1,000 ft. above sea level, to the N. of the hill.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xx, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 7' 16-26''$; long. $3^{\circ} 14' 48''-15' 17''$.]

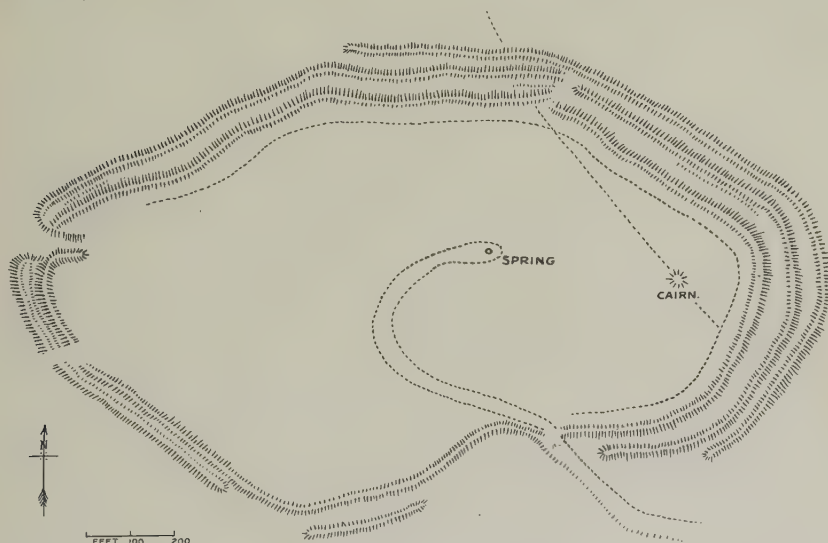


FIG. 55—MOEL FENLLI CAMP.

DESCRIPTION. The artificial defences of this camp, which is of oval shape, closely follow the contour of the hill. Its measurements are : circumference, about $\frac{3}{4}$ m. ; length, 1,500 ft. ; breadth, 800 ft. ; and area about 24 acres.* It guards on the N. Bwlch Pen Barras, over which an ancient road between Mold and Ruthin passes, and on the s. a pass called in the 6 in. Ordnance map Bwlch Crug-glas†, which is not traversed by a road.

Fortifications. On the N.W. and S.W. sides these consist of a double agger and fosse. On the s. side, where the slope is steep, there is, except for a short distance in the middle, only one rampart and ditch. On the N., N.E., and E. there are three, the middle rampart on the N.E. being a kind of a duplicated one. The innermost agger

* Lewis, in his *Topographical Dictionary*, gives the area as 63 acres, and he is followed by others, e.g. the *Inventory*.

† Pennant (*Tours*, ii, 26), who calls the pass "Bwlch Agricola," conjectures that it was so called after the Roman general. But Agricola in early Welsh would be *Aircol* (*Harleian MS.*, 3859 : Geneal. II, *Cymmrodor* ix, p. 171), and later *Airgwyl* (*Myv. Arch.*, p. 68).

here measures on the inside 8 or 10 ft. in height, whilst in other places its height is not more than 3 or 4 ft. It is distant from the outer agger some 15 or 20 yds. The ramparts are formed of earth and stones heaped up from the ditches.

Entrances. At present there are two, one on the w. side and the other on the s.e. (a) The former is formed by the incurving for several feet into the interior of the inner rampart on either side. The outer rampart on the s. side also turns in towards the inner. The length of the protecting bank on the s. side of the entrance is about 60 paces. (b) The other entrance, which is simply a gap in the rampart, is not original.

Water. Near the centre is a perennial spring of water, noticed by Camden at the end of the 16th century (*see below*).

Dwellings. Several hollows are noticeable in the interior on the sloping ground facing s.w. These no doubt mark sites of hut-circles.

EXCAVATION. Excavations lasting for eight days were conducted in the camp in August, 1849, by Mr. W. Wynne Ffoulkes, of Ereiviat, and the Rev. J. Williams (Ab Ithel), Rector of Llanymawddwy. The n.w. entrance was chosen as a starting point. The digging here seemed to show that the roadway had "an artificial surface, formed with stones of some size, laid flat-ways as a rude pavement." From the entrance the excavators proceeded in a southerly direction, making sections in the ramparts at different points. Subsequently Mr. Ffoulkes and Mr. Williams divided their labours, the latter continuing the work commenced on the w. and s.w. sides, while the former began operations on the n. rampart, proceeding from the entrance eastwards. A section made at the s. entrance proved it to be of later date than the camp, for "it was found to pass over the original agger, which had apparently been levelled for it."

FINDS. (1) *W. and S.W. sides.* At first, as Mr. W. Ffoulkes writes (*Arch. Camb.*, 1850, p. 84), the labours of the excavators seemed doomed to disappointment. Trench after trench was dug out without success. Perseverance, however, at length brought to light a piece of *white pottery*—the rim of some vessel, of coarse construction. This beginning was followed up by fresh discoveries of similar pottery, some in a state of great decay, and occasionally of small fragments of coarse red pottery. More white pottery was found later, together with "very good glazed *Roman Pottery*, partaking of the nature of Samian ware"; also what Mr. Ffoulkes calls "a remarkable *stone knife*," which he forwarded to the lord of the manor, F. R. West, Esq., M.P., at Ruthin Castle. This object is about 5 in. long and $\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$ in. thick, and of a rather soft stone. Mr. Wynne Ffoulkes, there can be little doubt, was mistaken in supposing that the stone was a knife. If anything at all, it may have been a hone. [Inspected by the writer at Ruthin Castle, Sept. 30, 1919.] (2) *N. side.* On this side Mr. Ffoulkes "turned up, in nearly every trench opened, fragments of *Roman Pottery*, varying both in colour and fabrication—coarse and fine, red and black (red outside and black inside), and cream coloured; also *iron*, so corroded that its form was no longer ascertainable; *glass* of a superior kind;

a *lead*en ornament ; part of a *brass* or *bronze* ring ; and in one of the easternmost trenches, just under the rampart, and below the *original* surface . . . the *rim* of a *vase* or *urn*, of white pottery." Pursuing the excavations more towards the interior, he found fragments of *flint* *arrow-heads*, and two almost entire, the points only being broken [seen at Ruthin Castle, Sept. 30, 1919] ; and to close the catalogue, some small pieces of rather coarse red pottery, rough-cast, containing atoms of spar, with which the mountain abounds.

DATE. Mr. Wynne Ffoulkes was of opinion that the camp was constructed by natives in the late iron age. A date in the Romano-British period is just as probable. The fact that fragments of Roman pottery were brought to light in the course of the excavations just described, and that Roman coins have from time to time been discovered on the site, does not necessarily point to the conclusion that the camp was occupied even intermittently by the Romans, as natives may well have been possessed of Roman ware and coins, brasses especially.

NAME. The hill on which the camp is situate, viz. Moel Fenlli, takes its name from Benlli Gawr (Benlli, the Giant), said to be the lord of Iâl about the middle of the fifth century (*Historia Brittonum*, c. 35). His son Beli was, according to tradition, buried at Llanarmon. One of the " Englynion Beddau Milwyr ynys Prydain " (The Stanzas of the Graves of the Warriors of the Isle of Britain), No. 73 (see *Myvyrian Archaeology*, p. 68 ; *Black Book of Carmarthen*, J. Gwenogfryn Evans, 1906, p. 69), states that Beli's grave was in " Y maes mawr " (The Great Plain) :

" Pieu y bet yn y maes mawr
Balch y law ar i lafnawr
Bet Beli vab Benlli Gawr."

In the *Lives of the British Saints*, iii, p. 71, it is stated that " the two stones set up to mark the grave existed till about 1600 at a place of the name on the Nant-y-Meini brook, which rises on the Nerquis mountain." See also *Hanes Cymru* by Thomas Price (Carnhuanawc), p. 35 ; cf. *Arch. Camb.*, 1850, p. 106.

The name Benlli is preserved, as is highly probable, in the Welsh designation of Bardsey Island, viz. *Ynys Enlli*, that is, Benlli's Island. There is also a farm called Bodenlli in Anglesey.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES. The fort is first mentioned by Camden in his *Britannia* (ed. of 1600, p. 600 [not in first ed., 1586]), who writes, " Inter quos [montes] aeditistimus est *Moil Enlli* in cujus cacumine vallum militare et fonticulum limpidum vidimus " ("Among which [mountains] the highest is Moil Enlli on the top whereof I saw a warlike fense with trench and vampier, also a little fountaine of cleere water " [Eng. edition by Philemon Holland, Doctour in Physick, 1610, p. 676]).

In 1778 Pennant (*Tours* ii, 27) writes : " Moel Fenlli . . . is remarkable for having on it a strong *British* post, guarded as usual by dikes and fosses. This probably was possessed by a chieftain of that name [Benlli] ; for *Nennius* speaks of such a *regulus* of the

country of *Yale* ; but, as is too usual with our antient historians, blends so ridiculous a legend with the mention of him, as would destroy the belief of his existence, did not the hill remain a possible evidence. *St. Germanus*, says the Abbot, designed to make this Benlli a visit ; but meeting with a most inhospitable reception, was kindly entertained by a servant of the King in his humble cottage, who killed his only calf, dressed and placed it before the Saint and his companions. This goodness met with its reward ; for lo ! the next morning the identical calf was found alive, with its mother."

Samuel Lewis, in his *Topographical Dictionary*, 1842² (s.v. Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd), thus describes the fort : " On the summit of Moel Venlli . . . which is 1722 ft. in height, is an extensive British Camp, comprising an area of 63 acres, surrounded by a double vallum and intrenchment, and additionally defended on the eastern . . . side by a triple foss : the ascent to this station, which is so strongly guarded on every side as anciently to have rendered it impregnable, is by a circuitous path round the western side of the mountain : a portion of the inner gate is still remaining."

W. Davis, in his *Handbook for the Vale of Clwyd* (1857²), p. 166, copies Lewis's description.

Visited May, 1913, and Sept. 20, 1922.

[See also *Arch. Camb.*, 1850, pp. 81-89—article by Mr. Wynne Ffoulkes, to which the writer is much indebted ; 1921, pp. 237-252 (Willoughby Gardner) ; *Inventory*, No. 284, p. 88.]

CAMP : MOEL Y GAER.

SITE. Moel y Gaer is a spur of Moel Famau, protruding, at a much lower level, in a s.w. direction towards the Vale of Clwyd. The altitudes of the two summits, which are a little over a mile apart, are 1,092 ft. and 1,820 ft. respectively.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xiv, S.E. : lat. 53° 8' 40-48" ; long. 3° 16' 14-29".]

DESCRIPTION. As seen from the valley, the fortifications of the Caer assume the form of a band drawn around the upper part of the hill, which is more or less conical.

Starting a perambulation of the fortifications on the w. side, in a northerly direction, it is found that on this side they consist of two somewhat weak ramparts and fosses. The fosse inside the outer agger, which is now to a considerable extent filled up, is here in places, as in other parts, cut in the shaly rock. On the inside of this fosse the ground rises sharply, on the top of which is the inner rampart with a shallow ditch inside. About the middle of the w. side is one of the two original entrances of the camp. The inner rampart on either side incurves for a distance of about 20 paces. As the n.w. corner or curve is approached the outer rampart becomes more pronounced. The fosse here again is cut in the rock. Not far from the w. end of the n. side a third rampart starts its course, which is continued for some 300 yds. For the first 100 yds. or so, it is on an average 30 paces distant from what is now the middle rampart, that is, from summit

to summit, being "carried round an excrescence from the hill, which, had it been left unfortified, would have afforded a resting place for an enemy attacking the position." Afterwards it approaches quite closely to the intermediate rampart. On the N.E. side where Moel y Gaer is connected with the higher ground to the E. by a neck of land,

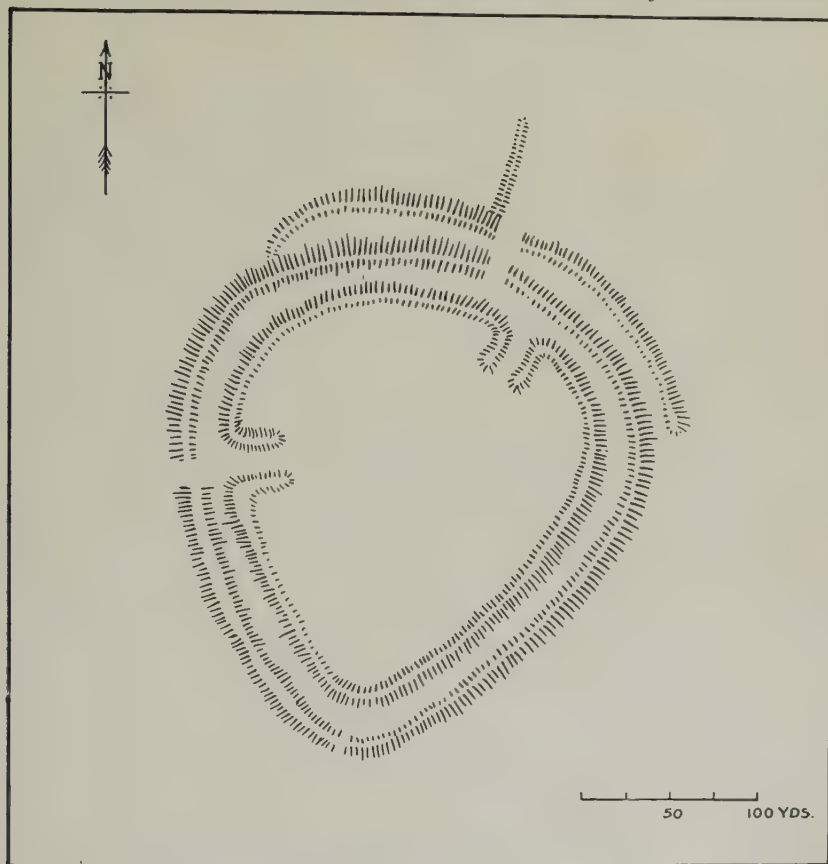


FIG. 56—MOEL Y GAER CAMP.

which is precipitous especially on the s. side, the three ramparts are strong. The main entrance is on this side, slightly to the N. of the highest level of the neck. This consists of a gap about 10 yds. wide in the outer and middle ramparts. In the inner rampart the gap is 25 yds. or so further s. Here the rampart on either side of the passage curves inwards into the interior for about 22 yds. This passage is about 5 paces wide. A roadway led along the outside of the inner rampart from the openings in the outer and middle ramparts to the guarded entrance. The outer agger and fosse come to an end just to the s. of the neck of land referred to. On the s.e. there was no need of strong defences, as the slope is fairly steep, and the inner agger almost disappears, there being only a trace of it visible at the top of a sharp scarp, which rises above the outer rampart. At the s. corner the defences are almost obliterated.

The camp measures in circumference between 900 and 1,000 paces (along the top of the outer ramparts), the area enclosed being, it is said, about 10 acres. There is no spring of water on the hill, and no traces of habitations of any kind are discoverable.

EXCAVATION. This camp was partly excavated under the supervision of Mr. Wynne Ffoulkes, of Ereiviat, in 1849, about eight days being given to the work.

The following are the principal points at which diggings were effected :—(a) A start was made at the N.E. corner, in the ditch inside the outer rampart near the gap in the latter. The surface “to the depth of about 15 inches consisted of soil, below which was a layer of stone cut from the adjoining rock about $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in thickness.” (b) An incision was made about the centre of the N.W. side in the outer rampart. Here, a foot or so beneath the surface, the excavators came to a “quantity of stone roughly laid together, forming a sort of wall, which, in the centre of the agger, is carried down to the foundation and, to the depth of about 15 inches, extends, also laterally, the whole breadth of the agger.” (c) On the eastern side an incision was made just to the S. of the opening in the outermost rampart. The agger here was found to be composed of earth and gravel. (d) On the same side, the supposed roadway, just where it passes through the second rampart, was grubbed up, and its surface was found to be “composed of rock-stone, broken up small, while that part of it which passed through the entrance in the inner rampart was laid down with a rude sort of pavement, formed with large flat stones, varying in size from 6 to 12 inches long.” (e) A trench was cut from the S. side of the southern transverse rampart of the entrance (eastern) along the side of the inner rampart where a similar sort of rude pavement was discovered, together with a great quantity of ashes and burnt stone. (f) Numerous trenches in different parts of the enclosed area were opened, with no other result than the discovery of very great quantities of burnt oak.

Burnt Stone. “The inner rampart,” so writes Mr. Wynne Ffoulkes, “in its course northwards from the eastern gate, just before it turns to the west, passes over a high natural mound, the surface of which . . . to the depth of about 3 feet I found to consist of a debris of soil and splintered rock-stone so thoroughly burnt as to look, when fresh turned up, like brick-earth, and having occasionally veins of ashes, about 2 or 3 inches in diameter, running into it horizontally—a fact which induced me to believe that it had never been disturbed since the time it had been first fired.” Small quantities of the lava-like stone referred to above are still to be noticed at the spot in question, where the turf has been removed. The same kind of stone is to be found also in the ramparts of *Caer Euni*, which is situated a little over 3 miles to the N.W. of *Llandrillo*, *Merionethshire*. Its presence in the latter led certain archaeologists to the erroneous conclusion that the ramparts were vitrified (*Arch. Camb.*, 1881, pp. 307–315; also 1860, p. 246). Of a sample stone sent to him by the writer, Sir W. Boyd Dawkins wrote, in a letter dated Aug. 29, 1921: “It has obviously been burnt, but there is nothing to show

why it was burnt. If smelting operations had been carried on the ashes would have been heavy, and there would have been slag."

CHARACTER OF DITCHES. Mr. Wynne Ffoulkes found that the form of two of the trenches in this camp, viz. those on the inside of the outer aggers, was of a remarkable character, their bottom being flat, and their sides perpendicular to the same, or nearly so. Mr. Ffoulkes gave these trenches the name of *fossae directae* to distinguish them from the *fossae fastigatae*, as the V-shaped fosses were termed by Hyginus, the Roman writer on Castrametation*. Those to be found in the camp on Moel Fenlli are of this latter description.

FINDS. The excavation of this camp yielded but very meagre results in the way of finds, the only object of any significance being a "piece of common pottery, well fabricated and of deep red colour, with the remains of a glaze upon it, but so extremely rotten as to bear no trace of what description of vessel it was a fragment." This sherd was discovered lying among some ashes upon the surface of a rock underneath the layer of stones at the bottom of the trench near the opening in the outer rampart on the E. side [see (a) above]. On the S.W. side among a quantity of ashes there was discovered "a piece of mountain stone rudely chipped down into a circular form." Mr. Ffoulkes suggests that it was used as a lid for some vessel.

DATE. Mr. Wynne Ffoulkes concluded "from the peculiar formation of the fossae, the uniformity in the height, as well as the more careful and regular construction of the agger, the position of the gates, and the general design of the encampment," that "this camp either was not contemporaneous with that on Moel Fenlli," which he had reason to believe was constructed in the late iron age, "or that they [the two camps] were made by different races."

PREVIOUS REFERENCES. 1. Pennant (*Tours*, vol. ii, p. 63) writes: "Beneath [Moel Fenlli] is another post, on a lesser hill, which juts into the vale of *Clwyd*, and is called by the common name of *Moel y Gaer*."

2. S. Lewis (*Topographical Dictionary*), s.v. "Llanbedr," thus refers to the camp: "Moel Gaer, a small hill under Moel Venlli, is also strongly fortified with a single dyke, which entirely surrounds its summit: this appears to have been an outwork to the camp or principal station of Venlli. Immediately above Moel Gaer is Moel Vamma."

Visited June 21, 1921, and Ap. 27, 1926.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1850, pp. 174-181 (Mr. Wynne Ffoulkes); *Inventory*, No. 285, pp. 88, 89.]

* *Hyg. de Castramet.*, ad finem (W. W. Ff.).

STONE HAMMER OR ANVIL STONE : BWLCH PEN BARRAS.

DISCOVERY. The above was discovered about the year 1804 on a heap of stones at Bwlch Pen Barras, the pass between Moel Famau and Moel Fenlli, about 3 m. N.E. of Ruthin, by a relative or friend of the late Mr. Lewis Davies, Berwyn Street, Bala.



FIG. 57—STONE HAMMER, BWLCH PEN BARRAS.

In August, 1884, Mr. Davies sent this hammer, together with other objects, to the exhibition held in connection with the visit of the *Cambrian Archaeological Association* to Bala. As Mr. Davies was willing to dispose of some of the objects, certain of them, the hammer included, passed into the hands of Mr. Worthington G. Smith, Dunstable (died 1918).

DESCRIPTION. This hammer, which is polished all over, measures $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. in length, $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. in breadth, and $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. in depth, and weighs 1 lb. $3\frac{3}{4}$ oz. On both sides of the stone drilling was commenced, but not completed. "One depression is considerably deeper than the other. The colour is black : but this blackness has to a great extent been acquired by time. The material is probably a very compact quartzite, enclosing small black grains of some other material. . . . By the character of the rounded angles it appears probable that the stone was originally a natural ovoid pebble of suitable form ; and that the two ends and four sides were squared to shape at the time the drilling was commenced. No hammer of this form is illustrated in Mr. J. Evans' *Ancient Stone Implements of Great Britain*."

SUBSEQUENT HISTORY. Mr. W. G. Smith presented the stone to the late Sir John Evans, who refers to it in his *Ancient Stone Implements*

(p. 239) as being in his Collection. At the death of the latter it passed into the possession of his son, Sir Arthur Evans, who, in 1927, presented the Collection to the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford. Its number is 1927—4025.

Hammer seen June 26, 1928.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1884, p. 305–7 (W. G. Smith); *Inventory*, 292, p. 90.

CIRCULAR STONE HAMMER: LLANBEDR.

In the temporary museums held in connection with the Llandeilo and Monmouth Meetings of the *Cambrian Archaeological Association* (1855 and 1857), a circular stone hammer, stated to have been found at Llanbedr, near Ruthin, and belonging to the Rev. E. L. Barnwell, of Ruthin School, was exhibited (*Arch. Camb.*, 1855, p. 31, and 1857, p. 424). The present location of the hammer is not known.

BRONZE IMPLEMENTS: MOEL Y GAER.

Two bronze implements—a palstave with loop, and an “axe”—found on Moel y Gaer, were exhibited by Mr. J. Spier Hughes, of Llanrwst, at the Temporary Museum held in connection with the Ruthin Meeting of the *Cambrian Archaeological Association* in 1854 (*Arch. Camb.*, 1854, p. 252).

There are four fort-hills bearing the name of “Moel y Gaer” in North-east Wales—two in Flintshire, that is, in the parishes of Bodfari and Caerfallwch (Rhosesmor), and two in Denbighshire, in the parishes of Llantysilio and Llanbedr—but it is not stated which of these is meant. Presumably it is the Llanbedr one, which is $2\frac{3}{4}$ m. N.E. of Ruthin.

What became of the implements is not known.

SPINDLE WHORLS.

I (RECTORY).

This was found by Mr. John Jones, Fron Cottage, Llanbedr, in 1916, while making a drain in the orchard attached to Llanbedr Rectory garden, near the pond. The dimensions are : diameter, $1\frac{1}{8}$ in., thickness, $\frac{1}{4}$ in.

It is now in the possession of the Rev. Thomas Roberts, R.N., Arncliffe, Queen's Walk, Rhyl.

Seen several times.

II (RHIWLAS).

Two spindle whorls were found not long before 1922 by Mr. R. H. Jones, of Rhiwias, Llanbedr, in ploughing his land.

One of them the finder utilises as a roller or castor to a bed. The other has been lost sight of.

[Information obtained from the finder Aug. 24, 1922.]

LOOM WEIGHTS: BWLCH PEN BARRAS.

DISCOVERY. Three loom weights were picked up in 1912, two by Mr. Richard Wynne Williams (now in Australia) and one by his brother, Mr. J. Furness Williams, the well-known singer (both formerly of Ruthin), about 100 yds. N. of the gate at the top of Bwlch Pen Barras, $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. E.N.E. of Llanbedr Church and $2\frac{3}{4}$ m. N.E. of Ruthin.

DESCRIPTION. They are oval in shape and measure about 5 in. in length and $4\frac{1}{4}$ in width across the thickest part. Their material is baked clay. A perforation, about $\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter, runs through the centre lengthwise. The period to which the weights are to be assigned is the Iron Age.

PRESENT LOCATION. They remain in the possession of Mr. Furness Williams, with the exception of a large fragment which was presented to the writer.

LLANDEGLA.

TUMULI: MAES MAELOR.

I.

SITE. This stands about 300 yds. to the S. of Maes Maelor farmhouse, in a field belonging to that farm, on the right-hand side of the road leading to Wrexham, about $6\frac{1}{2}$ m. in a beeline W.N.W. from the centre of that town. The land belongs to Capt. Dewhurst, of Bodidris.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 50''$; long. $3^{\circ} 8' 46''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The tumulus, which is covered with turf, and undisturbed, is over a hundred paces in circumference and about 10 ft. in height. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

II.

SITE. This is on the other side of the road, close to (i.e. just W. of) the gate leading to Maes Maelor house.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 54''$; long. $3^{\circ} 8' 43''$.]

DESCRIPTION. It is 112 paces in circumference and about 10 ft. in height. It has been much tampered with, many scores of loads of its material having at some time or other been removed from the E. side. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

Seen Ap., 1913, and Sept. 3, 1923.

CAIRNS: CYRN Y BRAIN.

I (SIR WATKIN'S TOWER).

SITE. This stands on the highest point (1,843 ft.) of the mountain range called Cynr y Brain, 2 m. in a beeline to the S.S.E. of Llandegla Church. The mountain belongs to Captain Dewhurst, of Bodidris.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 17''$; long. $3^{\circ} 10' 24''$.]

DESCRIPTION. There can be little doubt that the erection known as Sir Watkin's Tower, now in ruins, was raised on a cairn about 55 paces in circumference and 4 or 5 ft. in height.

II.

About 22 paces to the S.E. of No. 1 is a round mound 36 paces in circumference, and about 2 ft. in height, resembling the remains of a cairn. The fact, however, that all the stones on the outside of this mound are dressed seems to point to the conclusion that it was a structure connected with the Tower.

III.

About 500 yds. to the S.S.W. of the Tower, and 70 paces to the N.W. of a wire fence that follows the boundary line between the parishes of Llangollen and Llandegla, is another cairn which has a circumference of about 40 paces and a height of about $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. A hole has been made in the centre.

IV.

A thousand yards or so to the S.W. of the Tower, on the next highest point of the range (1,839 ft.), is another cairn, 37 paces in circumference, 4 ft. in height, and which stands on a low platform about 70 paces round.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 4''$; long. $3^{\circ} 10' 33''$.]

V.

Ninety-three paces or thereabouts to the N.W. of No. 4 is yet another cairn, 34 paces in circumference and 2 ft. (at present) in height.

VI.

About 690 paces to the N.E. of the Tower, close to the boundary line between the parishes of Llandegla and Llangollen and in the latter parish, is a round platform about 30 paces round, which may possibly be the base of a dismantled cairn. At this point in the 6 in. Ordnance map (sheet xxvii, S.E., Edition 1914) is marked "Pile of Stones." The "Pile" however no longer exists.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 24''$; long. $3^{\circ} 9' 53''$.]

The above were seen Sept. 3, 1923, and May 7, 1924.

ERW GARNEDD : NEAR CROWN INN.

About 250 yds. to the N.W. of the Crown Inn, which is $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.S.E. of Llandegla Church and on the main road to Wrexham, is a field called Erw Garnedd, belonging to Mill Farm. There is no trace of a cairn in or around it. During the last hundred years nothing has been discovered in the field. The grandfather of the present tenant (Mr. E. W. Jones) took the farm in 1816 [6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 31''$; long. $3^{\circ} 12'$]. See "Bedd y Gwr Hir" (Llanarmon), p. 178.

Field inspected March 30, 1925.

ANCIENT PAVED ROAD.

COURSE. At present two portions of this road are to be seen near the village of Llandegla. (a) One runs in a S.S.W. direction from the church, just to the E. of the mill, for about 250 yds., and is now

but a mere lane. (b) The other portion is to the N.E. of the church. It can be traced for a mile and a half or so. It is not now used. A short distance from the village, it crosses a tiny stream, over which is a strongly-constructed culvert, partly destroyed.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, N.W.]

DATE. This track is evidently very old, and may well be a part of a Roman road between Caergai and Deva (Chester).

Seen May, 1913, and July 11, 1922.

LLANDRILLO YN RHOS.

TUMULI: GLAN Y GORS.

I.

SITE. This stands in the second field to the N.E. of the farmstead of Glan y Gors (which is in Llanellian Parish), about 20 yds. from the s. hedge and about 110 from the w. The field, called Cae Main, is in the civil parish of Llandrillo, and belongs to James Amphlett, Esq., Brynmaen. Until 1919 it went with Cilgwyn Mawr Farm.

[6 in. O.S. sheet iii, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 15' 40''$; long. $3^{\circ} 43' 36''$.]

DESCRIPTION. It is a fine tumulus measuring in circumference about 120 paces, and in height 6 ft. It is composed of soil, and covered with turf. A large stone removed from the eastern slope of the tumulus, when the field was ploughed in 1921, was seen by the writer close to the s. hedge on Aug. 1, 1923. Elevation: above contour line 900.

II.

This is in the same field as No. 1, about 100 yds. to the N.N.E.

In size it is considerably smaller than No. 1, being only 50 paces in circumference and $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. It seems to be composed in the main of stones, and has never been under cultivation like the rest of the field, though it looks as if it had been disturbed. Gorse and brambles grow on it. In recent years it has been a dumping place for stones from the field.

Seen Aug. 1, 1923, and July 14, 1925.

CAMP: BRYN EURYN.

SITE. The hill, Bryn Eurn, on which this fort stands, is about a mile due w. of Colwyn Bay, and half-a-mile or so s. of Llandrillo Church. There is a wide outlook from the summit, which is 427 ft. above sea level.

[6 in. O.S. sheet iii, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 18' 8''$; long. $3^{\circ} 45' 12''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The fort on this hill consists of (a) a citadel and (b) an outer camp.

(a) The citadel or inner fort is a circular enclosure measuring about 36 paces in diameter, which occupies the crest of the hill. The rampart is clearly discernible all around, there being on the N. side traces of the outward facing of the wall. The stone used—limestone—

has everywhere broken up into small fragments under the disintegrating influence of the elements.

(b) The outer camp covers practically the whole of the hill-top, being a little over an acre in area. Where the sides are not precipitous, as they are on the s. and s.w., the enclosure is bounded by a low rampart, for the most part roughly built. In several places it is

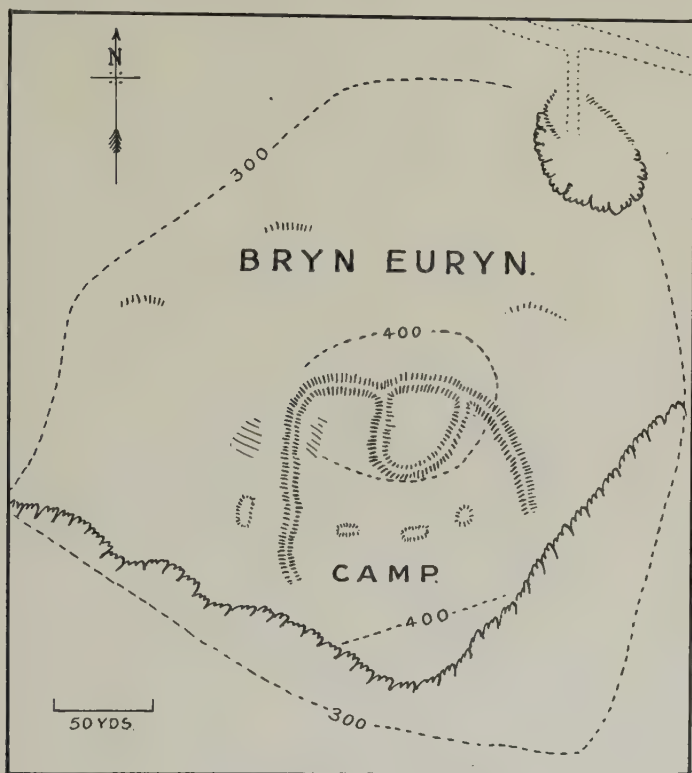


FIG. 58—BRYN EURYN CAMP.

at present nothing more than banked rubble. The entrance was on the E. side near the s. end, up to which a track leads from the foot of the hill. Across this part, from the sharp declivity on the s. to the post on the crest, are to be seen the remains of a strong wall with a gap for the entrance.

Mounds. Mr. Longueville Jones, in *Arch. Camb.* for 1855, states that there were two long mounds on the hill. These are still there, in the depression between the citadel and the escarpment on the s. side. They lie E. and W. The westernmost seems to be made up of two, measuring respectively 8 by 4 yds. and 6 by 4 yds., with a break of two yards between them. The other mound, which is more to the E., is 16 yds. by 5 yds. Thirty paces or so outside the W. rampart is another mound of similar dimensions, with a shallow moat around it. A feature common to all of them is that they are flat on the top and only a few feet high.

To what date they should be assigned is a difficult question to answer. That they are long barrows belonging to the Neolithic Age is not to be entertained.*

Hut Circle. Just below the citadel to the E. of the mounds are the unmistakable remains of a round hut about $7\frac{1}{2}$ paces in diameter, with an entrance on the N. side. Outside the E. side of the citadel is another round hollow, which may possibly mark the site of a hut.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES. This camp is not mentioned by Leland or Camden or Lhuyd. Nor does Pennant, who speaks of the "ruined house, called *Bryn Euryn*: formerly called *Llys Maelgwyn Gwynedd*, who had a palace on this spot" (*Tours* iii, 145), refer to it.

Lewis, in his *Topographical Dictionary* (s.v. *Llandrillo yn Rhos*) makes the following allusion:—"A quarter of a mile southward from the church is a strongly fortified hill, called *Bryn Euryn*, at the foot of which are the ruins of a large building, called *Llys Bryn Euryn* erected by *Ednyved Vychan*"

NAME OF FORT. The original or at least an ancient name of this fort was presumably *Dinerth*, spelt also *Dynernth*, *Dinarnth*, *Dineirith*, etc. Before the 16th century the parish bore this name, which still survives as the name of the township. As to the meaning of the word considerable uncertainty exists. The first part is evidently *Din*, a fort, but what the latter part signifies can only be conjectured. Sir John Rhys (*Celtic Britain*, p. 123 note) favours the derivation *Din+arth* (bear's fortress) for an early *Dunos* or *Dunon Arti*.

Visited several times.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1880, p. 316; *H.N.W.*, p. 69; *Inventory*, p. 94, No. 309.]

STONE CELT: COLWYN BAY.

DISCOVERY. The above was picked up in April, 1868, by Mrs. A. S. Price, wife of Mr. W. Fred Price, of Crosby, Liverpool, among the shingle on the beach at Colwyn Bay.

For 15 years, till 1883, it was kept unnoticed in a box with an assortment of pebbles. In that year the finder handed the stones to her husband, who put them away in a drawer, and did not realise that one was an axe until the year 1896, when he read an account in Prof. Boyd Dawkins's *Cave Hunting* of a celt found at Rhos Digre cave.

DESCRIPTION. The celt is not whole, the butt end having been broken off, and the resultant stump badly chipped. Its dimensions

* Since the above was written the following passage, which seems *a propos*, appeared in a paper by O. G. S. Crawford, on "Barrows" in *Antiquity* (Dec., 1927, p. 431): "There is a class of mound that is sometimes called a barrow, but which seldom, if ever, yields an interment. It consists of a low, flat, rectangular mound rather like a pillow; there is often a longitudinal crease down the middle, and sometimes grooves or creases at right angles to and on either side of the central one. These mounds often occur near and within hill-top camps, but they may be of more recent date. One of the best groups is that on Steeple Langford Cowdown, near Yarnbury, in Wiltshire. No satisfactory explanation of the purpose of these mounds has ever been put forward. It has been suggested that they are artificial rabbit warrens, but I have never seen a rabbit using one, and such temptations to burrow seem superfluous. One such in Hollybush Camp on the Malvern Hills has been twice excavated without providing a solution of the problem."

are : present length, $5\frac{1}{4}$ in., greatest breadth near the cutting edge, $3\frac{1}{2}$ in., and width at the thick end, 2 in. The surface has been made smooth and polished. The cutting edge has been somewhat damaged. The celt was almost certainly made at the Graig Lwyd neolithic factory, Penmaenmawr.



FIG. 59—STONE AXE, COLWYN BAY ($\frac{2}{3}$).

PRESENT LOCATION. In November, 1926, the widow of Mr. W. F. Price (Mrs. Ruth Price, Pitchcombe, Stroud) presented the celt, through the present writer, to the St. Asaph Cathedral Library.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1898, pp. 92, 93.]

BRONZE CELT : COLWYN BAY.

DISCOVERY. This celt was found in a field near Colwyn Bay, and became the property of a lady living in Scotland. Whether she was the finder does not transpire.

In 1892 a cast of it was taken for the Grosvenor Museum, Chester, by Mr. R. Newstead.

DESCRIPTION. The palstave weighs 12 oz., and measures in length about 6 in. and in width at the cutting end 2 in., and at the tang end 1 in. The edge is irregular.

Cast seen at the Chester Museum several times.

ROMAN COINS : BRYN EURYN.

DISCOVERY. A hoard of Roman coins, contained in an earthenware vessel, was discovered about 1902 by Mr. William Owen, of Pant yr Hwch, Mochdre, and Mr. John Hughes, of Pydew, Llangystennin (died about 1912), while digging for gravel (shale) for the parapets of local roads, on the rock, a few score yards to the s. of the ruins of Llys Euryn, which are $\frac{1}{4}$ m. s.s.e. of the parish church. Owen's pick went into the vessel, which was in a small hole about a foot deep made in the shale rock. The site has now some years been quarried away. The rock belongs to the Cayley Estate.

[6 in. O.S. sheet iii, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 18' 18''$; long. $3^{\circ} 45' 5''$ (approx.)]

DESCRIPTION. 1. *Urn*. Mr. William Owen, whom the writer interviewed, Feb. 16, 1925, said that the vessel, in which the coins were contained, was about 6 in. high, and about 3 in. across the base. It had two handles near the top, and was glazed black to within 2 in. or so of the bottom. It broke in pieces, and no fragments were preserved as far as Owen knew.

2. *Coins*. These practically filled the jar. The bulk, so the writer was informed, got into the possession of the late Mr. Rowland Williams, of Hafryn, under whom Owen and Hughes worked. Owen himself also and others had a few. The writer's endeavours in 1925 to trace specimens signally failed. Dr. Willoughby Gardner, F.S.A., who was able, some years ago, to examine six of the coins, found them to be third brasses of Constantine the Great (310-15 A.D.). The type was similar to that of the hoard found on the Little Orme in 1873, and described by Mr. W. S. Ogden in *Arch. Camb.*, 1909, pp. 381-406 ; 1915, pp. 87-101.

Particulars were obtained from W. Owen and W. Davies, Pydew, Llangystennin, who was with Owen when the discovery was made.

Site visited Feb. 9, 1925.

ROMAN COINS : RHOS ABBEY.

DISCOVERY. These coins were found wrapped in a sheet of lead in an old stone drain in the garden of Rhos Abbey, when the site was being cleared for the erection of a hotel (Rhos Abbey Hotel) in 1898. The spot is a little over $\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. of Llandrillo Parish Church.

DESCRIPTION. All the coins that can be accounted for, six in number, are brasses—four "firsts" and two "seconds"—of Constantine the Great (306-337 A.D.), which are in excellent condition

- 1 Obverse : Laureated head of Emperor, face to the right.

Legend : IMP CONSTANTINVS PF AVG [i.e. IMPERATOR CONSTANTINVS PIVS FIDELIS AVGVSTVS].

Reverse legend : GENIO POP ROM.

s. and A. on either side of figure.

Exergue [i.e. mint-mark at foot of reverse] : PTR (Percussa or Prima Treviri).

Size of half-penny.

2. Ob. : Laureated head, to right.
 Leg : CONSTANTINVS PF AVG.
 Rev. leg. : MARTI CONSERVATORI.
 T and F on either side of figure.
 Ex. : PTR.
 Size : between a half-penny and a farthing.
3. Ob. : Laureated head, to right.
 Leg. : CONSTANTINVS PF AVG.
 Rev. leg. : SOLI INVICTO COMITI T . . . F.
 Ex. : PTR.
 Size of a farthing.
4. Ob. and rev. the same as 3.
5. Ob. same as 3.
 Rev. leg. : SOLI INVICTO COMITI.
 In field : s and p.
 Ex. : MLN [Moneta Londinensis, i.e. London mint].
 Size of a farthing.
6. Ob. : Laureated head, to right.
 Leg : IMP CONSTANTINVS PF AVG.
 Rev. leg. : SOLI INVICTO COMITI.
 In field : T. F.
 Ex. : TARL.
 Size of farthing.

PRESENT LOCATION. These coins, which were first examined by the writer in 1913, are in the possession of W. Horton, Esq., Bryn Dinarth, Colwyn Bay, on whose property they were found. In 1925, when seen again, No. 6 was missing.

[*Byegones* (Oswestry), Dec. 28, 1898, p. 551.]

ROMAN COIN : NANT SEMPYR.

A silver coin of Hadrian (117-138 A.D.) was found years ago in a field in Nant Sempyr, the narrow pass between Bryn Euryn and the hills to the N.N.E. of Mochdre hamlet, and w. of Colwyn Bay.

Obverse : HADRIANVS AVGVSTVS.

Reverse : TRANQVILLITAS AVG COS III P.P. [Third Consulship, Father of his Country (Pater Patriae)].

Present location, unknown.

[*Archaeological History of Llandrillo-yn-Rhos*, Rev. W. Venables Williams, p. 64.]

LLANDYRNOG.

LARGE STONES : CERRIG LLWYDION.

SITE. Just over $\frac{1}{2}$ m. s. of the village of Llandyrnog on the w. side of the main road are to be seen four large stones, from which the adjacent farm, Cerrig Llwydion (Grey Stones), derives its name.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xiv, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 9' 58-59''$; long. $3^{\circ} 19' 58-59''$.]

DESCRIPTION. Two of these, which measure respectively 7 by $3\frac{3}{4}$ ft. and 8 by 3 ft., are incorporated in the wall on the left-hand side of the gate of the lane leading to Tynycoed (formerly known as Cerrig Llwydion Bach). A third, of similar size (8 by 4 ft.), is distant about 15 ft., and lies near the hedge in the field on the other side of the gate. This was broken up in 1921. The fourth, which is smaller, is partly buried in the s. side of the same hedge, some 13 paces to the w. of the first-mentioned stones.

REFERENCE. The late Rev. H. Longueville Jones (*Arch. Camb.*, 1855, p. 267) regarded these stones as the remains of a Cromlech.

Seen in 1914, and subsequently.

[*Inventory*, No. 318, p. 97.]

CAMP: PEN-Y-CLODDIAU.

SITE. This camp is situate about $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the s.e. of Bodfari, and about $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. e.n.e. of Denbigh. The hill, which it crowns, locally called Mynydd Cefn Coch, is 1,442 ft. above sea level at its

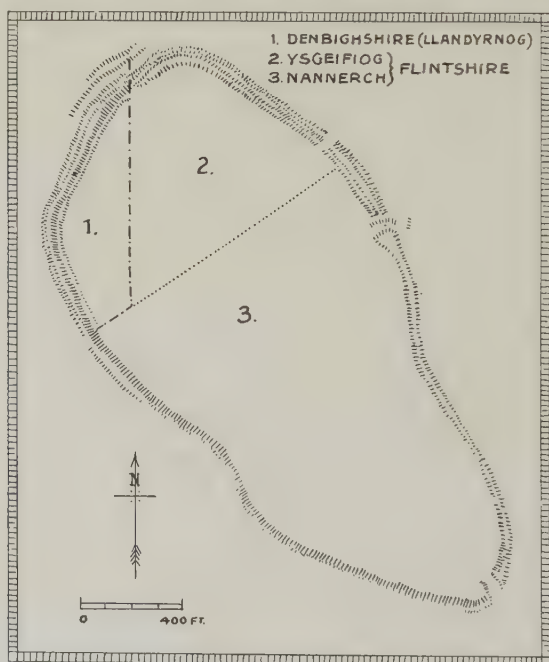


FIG. 60—PEN-Y-CLODDIAU CAMP.

highest point, that is, towards the N. Only about a sixth of the camp—the N.W. corner—is in Denbighshire, the rest being in Flintshire. Owner, Mr. Behrens, of Fron Yw, Llangwyfan.

[6 in. O.S. sheet ix, s.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 11' 53''$ – $12' 5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 18' 23$ – $30''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This is a very large camp, the area enclosed being a little over 50 acres. The artificial defences are on the whole strongest

in that part which is in Denbighshire. At the N.W. corner, where the boundary line traverses the defences, the ramparts number as many as four, with corresponding ditches. Starting from this point in a south-westerly direction we find that the ramparts are soon reduced to two. After leaving Denbighshire the outer defences become gradually weaker until they disappear altogether about half-way down that side. The rampart in this part has been tampered with by the erection in modern times of a fence composed of stone and earth on the top of it. Before we reach the S. corner the outer rampart appears again. At the S. point we come to what seems to have been the main entrance, which is formed by the incurving of the rampart on either side. Along the S.E. side where the ground falls sharply the defences consist of but one weak rampart. There is a sally port on this side leading to a pool of water about 50 yds. down the slope. Further N., that is, a little more than half-way up the N.E. side, is another entrance, the ramparts again incurving. This is protected also by an outwork on the S.E. side. Four hundred yards or so further N. is yet another opening with the ditches levelled up. Here, however, the ramparts do not curve inwards. All along this part there are two aggers which have been increased in strength at the N. corner.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES. 1. The *Parochialia* (pt. i, p. 78) refers to the camp of Pen-y-Cloddiau ("The Height of the Earthworks") in these terms: "Ar ben moel yswiliog i mae hen gaer yn dyn a[r] vilhdir vesŷrol o gwmpas" (On the top of Moel Ysweliog is an old camp close on a mile in circumference) [Under Nannerch].

2. John Lloyd, in an undated letter to Ed. Lhuyd (*Ashmole MS.*, 1830, fol. 261) writes: "I have been to see ye camp of Rhiw-bebill wth Mr. Sanders and Moel Arthur since. Both seem to be considerable works abt 4 or 5 miles from hence [Ruthin?]."

3. In an undated and unsigned letter to Ed. Lhuyd (*Ashmole MS.*, 1820, fol. 275) appears the following reference: "Dyffryn Clwyd Vale f^m Cevn Dy in Yale to ye sea abt 16 miles in lenth. . . . On ye hill ye east side (?) of it over ag^t Denbigh are (?) some old ruins of old fortifications one is abt a mile in circumference on Bryn y Wayn neer Rhyw Bybill, it has a double trench and seems to . . . almost inaccessible and is confronted by (?) the relics of another fort ag^t it call'd Moel Arthur, and Southwd of y^t another fort call'd Moel Eithinock (?) " . . . [fol. 276] . . . "Galais and Rhyw y bebill ye name of 2 townships in Bryn y Waun where ye eminent fort is to be seen."

4. S. Lewis's *Topographical Dictionary* contains two references to the camp:—

(a) "Near it [Moel Arthur] are the remains of Pen-y-Cloddiau, the most extensive British fortification in this part of the principality" (s.v. Nannerch).

(b) "The principal and most extensive of the [Clwydian range military posts] occupies the summit of [a mountain which] from its strong fortifications was called Bryn y Cloddiau, or 'hill of ditches': the line of circumvallation conforms to the shape of the hill, and the

enclosed area is one mile and three quarters in circumference, and defended, according to the facility or difficulty of access, by single, double, triple, and quadruple intrenchments; the principal entrance is on the west side, where is only a single fosse, and on the north, where it was more easily accessible, are five fosses. Within the enclosure are several hollows, as if designed for lodgements of men on guard, or probably as places of greater security, which are now filled with pools of water: and in the centre of the camp is a large tumulus" (s.v. Llandyrnog).

5. W. Davis, in his *Handbook for the Vale of Clwyd* (1857), p. 172, reproduces the last description by Lewis.

Ramparts perambulated Sept. 7, 1920.

[*Inventory* (Flintshire), No. 198, pp. 68, 69.]

SPINDLE WHORL : SPEDDYD.

The above was picked up about 1917 by Mr. J. Griffith, junior, of Speddyd, in ploughing the field next to the house (Cae Ysgubor).

It has the appearance of being an undressed pebble, its shape being somewhat irregular. The perforation is obliquely made.

The finder gave it to the writer, March 23, 1923.

LLANDDOGET.

ROMAN COIN : Y WERN.

DISCOVERY. This was found by Mr. D. E. Rowlands in the garden of Wern, Llanddoget—his former home—while digging for worms preparatory to going out fishing, on March 1, 1923.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xi, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 9' 29''$; long. $3^{\circ} 47' 15''$.]

DESCRIPTION. It is a "great brass" of Hadrian (117–138 A.D.), in good condition.

Obverse : Head of Hadrian, to right.

Legend : HADRIANVS AUG[USTUS] COS[CONSUL] III P[ATER]
P[ATRIAE].

Reverse : This side is much worn, but the letters S.C. [SENATUS
CONSULTO] are legible.

PRESENT LOCATION. The coin remains in the possession of the finder.

Examined Jan. 3, 1924.

SPINDLE WHORL : PENLLAN.

This whorl was found in March, 1919, by Mr. Robert Thomas, then of Tynyffynnon, Llanddoget, in a heap of stones picked from the surface of a field called "Yr Hafod," belonging to Penllan. It is $1\frac{3}{4}$ in. in diameter and $\frac{1}{4}$ in. thick. The faces are not quite even.

It is now in the possession of the Rev. T. Roberts, R.N., Arncliffe, Rhyl, who acquired it from the finder.

Seen Oct. 24, 1921.

LLANELIAN. TUMULI: GLODDAETH.

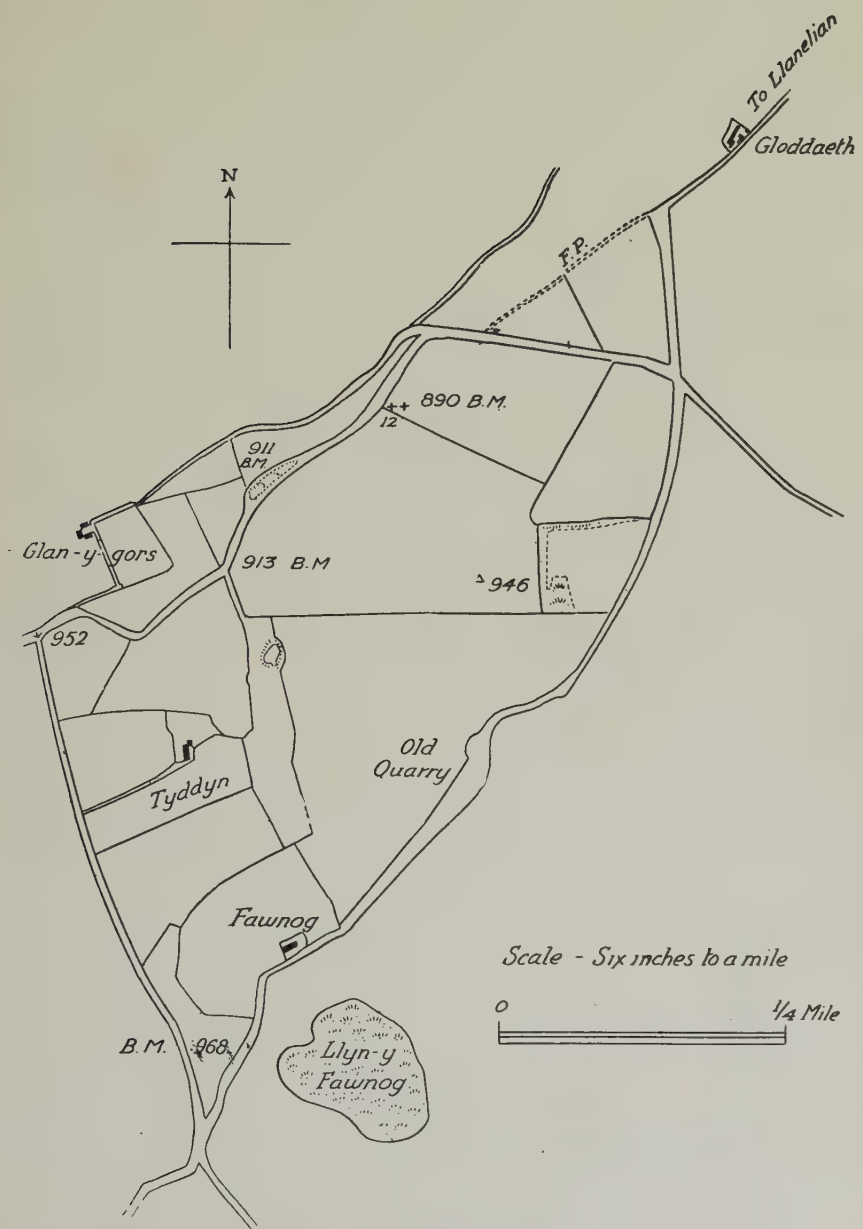


FIG. 61—MAP SHOWING THE SITES OF THE GLODDAETH TUMULI.

SITE. These tumuli, two in number, are situated in a field called Ffrith Holland, 630 yds. or so to the s.w. of Gloddaeth Farm, to which the field belongs, on the left-hand side of the road leading from Llanellian village to Tal-y-cafn, about a mile s.w. from the former

place. Both lie close to each other near the gate into the road at the s.w. corner of the field. Elevation : above contour line 800.

DESCRIPTION. No. 1. This, which is distant 50 yds. from gate referred to above, is about 70 paces in circumference and about $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. The material of which it is made is soil. At the summit is a round depression, indicating that the tumulus has been dug into.

[6 in. O.S. sheet iii, s.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 15' 43.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 43' 14''$.]

No. 2. This lies immediately to the E. of No. 1, there being practically no break between the two. In size and composition it seems to be identical with its twin tumulus, but, unlike No. 1, it has not been disturbed, except by cultivation.

PARTIAL DESTRUCTION OF NO. 1. Unfortunately, No. 1 was partly destroyed on Oct. 1 and 2, 1914, by two roadmen, Mr. James Williams, then of Clwt, now of Bryntirion Terrace, Llanellian, and Mr. Hugh Jones, Tycanol, afterwards of Sarn, Waun, Abergele, who had been ordered by the Road Surveyor to remove, with the permission of the tenant, Mr. Thomas Davies, some stones that were known to lie just below the surface at the apex of the tumulus.

According to information derived in Aug., 1915, from the roadmen referred to above, and from the former, Mr. James Williams, also on Nov. 4, 1925, the central part of the tumulus contained a cist, over which a pile of stones, or cairn, had been raised. About 15 loads of stone were removed from the site for road metal.

Cist. The cist, the interior of which was oblong in shape and measuring about 5 ft. in length by $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in breadth, was formed of four stones, the two side ones being very large and too heavy to be removed without being broken up. These, fragments of which the writer saw in 1915, were granite of a light blue colour—a stone said not to be found in the immediate neighbourhood. The cist, which does not seem to have had a lid or covering slab then, was filled with soil and stones, with which were mixed quantities of incinerated bones and charcoal.

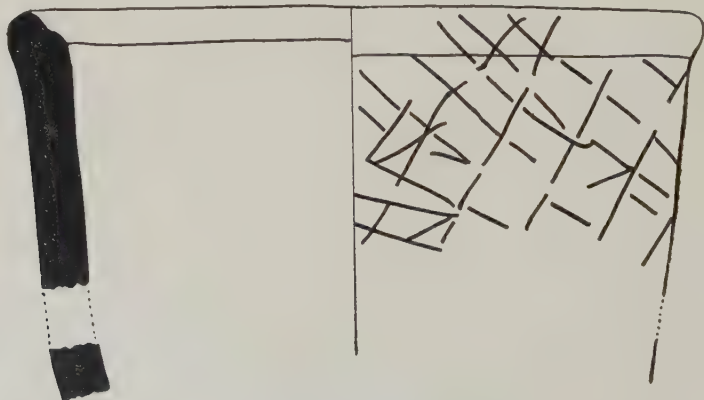


FIG. 62—URN FROM GLODDAETH TUMULUS ($\frac{1}{3}$).

Urn. Inside the cist was found an urn, containing cremated bones, placed mouth downwards. It was so brittle when discovered

that it fell to pieces. Unfortunately, no trouble was taken to preserve the fragments. When visiting the spot in August, 1915, the present writer was able to recover some half-a-dozen bits. These show that the urn was made of clay mixed with broken grit. The walls, with the exception of a reddish veneer on the outside, were quite black. Just below the lip the surface was ornamented with lines slovenly made intersecting each other trellis-like. The urn had no "neck" or "rim" except in a very rudimentary form, and resembled a Neolithic vessel. The diameter of the mouth was about $10\frac{1}{2}$ in.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1915, pp. 436-8 (Note, not quite accurate in detail, by present writer).]

TUMULUS: TYN-Y-FFRIDD.

SITE. This tumulus stands on the highest point of the moor known as Mynydd Llanelian (1,093 ft.), behind, that is to the s.w. of, Tyn-y-ffridd House, which is distant about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. s.w. from Llanelian Church. The moor in question, which was formerly crown land but now is the property of Mr. James Amphlett, Colwyn Bay, commands an extensive view on all sides.

[6 in. O.S. sheet iii, s.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 15' 49''$; long. $3^{\circ} 43' 47''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The tumulus is a small one, being only about 40 paces in circumference. Its height is about 4 ft. It is composed of earth and covered with turf. The surface is somewhat irregular, betraying signs of having been disturbed. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

EXPLORATION. Mr. Edward Williams, of Pendyffryn, Llanelian, formerly of Gloddaeth Farm, informed the writer that he remembered the Ordnance Survey men, about the year 1870, digging into the mound and taking stones out of it. They also raised a small heap of earth on the top.

When the Rev. Meredith J. Hughes, of Prestatyn, was Vicar of Brynmaen (1899-1908), he drove a narrow trench from the w. side to the centre, traces of which are still well marked. The digging brought to light nothing of interest.

NAME. In the *History of the Parish of Llandrillo*, by the Rev. W. Venables Williams, p. 11, this mound is called "Twr Jiwbili," that is, "Jubilee Tower," and is stated to have been erected to commemorate the Jubilee of George III in 1810.

The particular part of the "mountain" on which the tumulus stands is locally called Ffridd-y-bonc (The field of the bank).

Visited Aug., 1915, July 2, 1928, and Aug. 1, 1923.

MOUND: PLAS LLEWELYN.

SITE. This is situated in the field immediately in front of Plas Llewelyn House, which is a little over 1 m. s.e. of Llanelian Parish Church, close to the gate leading to the grounds.

[6 in. O.S. sheet iv, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 15' 34''$; long. $3^{\circ} 41' 13''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This mound stands at the top of a long and somewhat steep slope, and its dimensions in consequence are difficult to ascertain. It may be about 70 paces in circumference and 3 ft. in height. It is composed apparently of soil and covered with turf. It is not absolutely round. In all probability it is a natural formation. Seen July 14, 1925.

LLANELIDAN.

TUMULUS : TOM DONGEN.

SITE. This tumulus stands on the top of a wooded hill about a mile slightly E. of S. of Llanelidan Parish Church, and about 250 yds. S.S.W. of Rhewl-y-felin farmhouse.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvi, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 1' 51''$; long. $3^{\circ} 19' 21''$.]

DESCRIPTION. A considerable portion of the S.E. side of the tumulus has been removed, but when and by whom is not known. In the hollow made, 10 paces or so from the edge, are a few large stones, which may have formed part of a sepulchral chamber. Another big stone is nearer the circumference. The mound, when intact, seems to have measured about 90 paces around the base. Its height is about 10 ft. It is composed of soil. Elevation : above contour line 800.

Seen in 1915 and Jan. 11, 1926.

[*Inventory*, No. 323, p. 98.]

TUMULUS : MAES Y LLAN.

SITE. This stands about 350 paces N.N.E. of the Rectory, in a fenced-off portion [No. 321 in Tithe map] of Maes y Llan, near the N. hedge, 90 yds. or so to the E. of the foot path that crosses the field from the church to the road leading from the village to Nantclwyd station. The field belongs to the Nantclwyd Estate.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvi, S.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 49''$; long. $3^{\circ} 19' 47''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The tumulus, which is slightly ovoid in shape, is about 96 paces in circumference and 4 ft. in height. It is composed in the main of soil and covered with turf. When ploughed during the Great War, about 1918, many stones were removed from it.

Inspected May, 1916, and July 24, 1923.

TUMULUS : PWLL NAID.

SITE. This is situated in the second field—called Cae Preseb—to the S.W. of the farmstead of Pwll Naid, the property of Sir Edward Naylor Leyland, and a little less than $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N. of the parish church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvi, S.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 51''$; long. $3^{\circ} 19' 33''$.]

DESCRIPTION. A large tumulus, composed of soil and covered with turf, it measures in circumference about 95 paces and in height about 4 ft. It has not been disturbed except by the plough. Elevation : above contour line 400.

Seen May 21, 1928.

TUMULUS : CARREG EINWS.

SITE. This is situate exactly a mile E.N.E. of Llanelidan Parish Church, in the field immediately to the s.w. of Rhyd y Meudwy cottages, by the side [E.] of the public foot path that crosses the field. This field, which is No. 650 in the Tithe schedule and map, is called Cae Manni [Manning ?] and belongs to Carreg Einws Farm, called also Graig Ucha.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvi, s.e. ; lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 53''$; long. $3^{\circ} 18' 16''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The tumulus has a perimeter of about 85 paces, and a height of $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. It is composed of soil and turf-covered. It has not been disturbed. Elevation : above contour line 500.

Seen July 24, 1923.

TUMULUS (?) : CEFN MAEN LLWYD.

SITE. About $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.E. of the farmhouse of Cefn-maen-llwyd, and close to the boundary between the counties of Denbigh and Meirioneth, and the parishes of Llanelidan and Gwyddelwern, is a natural rising of ground, on the top of which is a mound which may possibly be a tumulus. A wire fence runs over the w. fringe of it, dividing the moor on which it stands from a cultivated field belonging to the above-mentioned farm.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvi, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 1' 19''$; long. $3^{\circ} 21' 15''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The mound in question is 120 paces or more in circumference and 4 or 5 ft. in height. It is composed of somewhat soft soil into which a stick can easily be pushed, and covered with gorse. Near the bottom of the s.w. slope, where an incision has been made for the fence, some stones are exposed in the mound, and there are a few loose ones lying about. These possibly formed part of a circle. The moor belongs to the Nant-Clwyd Estate.

REFERENCE. No name is at present apparently given to this mound, but there occurs in the "Survey of the Lordship of Ruthin" (*Arch. Camb.*, 1914, p. 432) a name which formerly may have been applied to it, viz. Tom̄ [=Tomen] Domwydd. The relevant passage in the survey, which is a "detailed perambulation of the boundaries of the Lordship," runs as follows:—"... Bwrdd y tri arglwydd where the County of Merioneth meets, and from thence turning on ye right hand and crossing a Dingle or Moorish plaine called y Waen Helig to Pen yr Aber Ddŵr called Aber Cyfle ruīng by the end of Talken Kefn Howell and along the s^d rivulett called Abergysfle up and to a little Hill or Heap of Earth called Moel Domwydd or Dom̄ Domwydd, and from thence to a pool called Pwll Domwydd, and turning Down to an old Earthen Ditch and to a Mark Stone sett up near the way leading to Bryn Saith Marchog etc."

Though the name Moel or Tomen Domwydd does not seem to be known at present, the pool close by still bears the designation "Llyn Domwydd." The only spot in the immediate vicinity which at all answers to the description given of Moel Domwydd is the small eminence referred to above.

Seen June, 1916, and May 19, 1926.

TUMULUS (?) : PWLL-DU.

SITE. This is in the second field to the N.W. of Pwll-du farmstead and the next to the main road from Ruthin to Corwen. Pwll-du is $\frac{3}{4}$ m. W. of Llanelidan Church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvi, S.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 44''$; long. $3^{\circ} 21' 0''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The mound, which is quite round and shapely, measures about 90 paces in circumference and 3 ft. in height. It was ploughed when seen. The upper part was more stoney than the rest of the field. A quantity of smallish smooth stones of different kinds, removed from the mound, were piled on the hedge of the field. The mound may quite possibly be natural.

Seen Ap. 17, 1928.

CIST-BURIAL : CAERDDINEN.

About the year 1888 a chambered grave was exposed near the foot of the hillock which stands to the S.W. of Caerddinen house when digging for soil to make a compost. The exact spot is just to the S.E. of the gate opening from the yard into the field to the N.W.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvi, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 24''$; long. $3^{\circ} 18' 6''$.]

The site is now indicated by a hollow. The grave was described to the writer by the tenant, Mr. Herbert Williams, who remembered it being opened in his father's time, as resembling an oven. Covering the front or entrance were slabs of stone. The sides of the chamber, which was about 2 yds. long, had the appearance of being cemented. A quantity of human bones was inside, but no other object was observed.

Site seen Ap. 17, 1928.

CAERDDINEN.

Though the name indicates a camp, no traces of artificial defences are to be seen. The late Sir J. Rhys suggested that the name originally was "Cerddinen," "a mountain ash tree," but the present local pronunciation does not favour that view. Caerddinen, if representing *caer*+*ddinan*, would mean "The camp of the small fort." The name "Cardinham," i.e. Caerdinan, occurs in Cornwall (see *Antiquity*, 1928, p. 321), and "Felin Caerddinan" appears in the 1838-9 1-in. Ordnance map as the name of a mill just to the N.E. of Moel Hiraddug (Flintshire), on which is a prehistoric camp (see *Arch. Camb.*, 1928, p. 254 n.).

Seen Ap. 17, 1928.

ROMAN COINS : BODLYWYDD.

DISCOVERY. The coins here treated of were discovered in 1866 in a small plantation on the N.E. slope of a narrow dingle, called Nant Pen-y-cae, between Cae Plwm, belonging to Bodlywydd Uchaf, and the brook which is the boundary between the last-named farm and Pen-y-cae. The spot in question is about $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. E.S.E. of Llanelidan Church. [6 in. O.S. sheet xxvi, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 30''$; long. $3^{\circ} 17' 49''$.]

The coins were found by the late John Jones, of Bodlywydd Bach (afterwards of Graig-fechan, Llanfair D.C.), the circumstances being as follows :—Jones had gone out one day to get up turnips. His dog, which followed him, started a rabbit, and ran after it into a burrow. The dog then began to scratch and work itself into the hole. When Jones later on passed the spot he noticed, to his amazement, a large number of small coins scattered about the mouth of the hole mixed with the soil. These he collected and took home to his mother, who made him return to look for more, which he did, with the result that he came across an earthenware vessel—which crumbled to bits—containing two or three hundred coins. The inside and upper part of the outside of the vessel were glazed black.

News of the find attracted several persons to the spot, amongst whom were the young people at Llwynderw, Ellis Jones and his two sisters. Miss Jones (died 1918) told the writer that she unearthed three or four, which she afterwards disposed of.

Shortly after the discovery, but not before some had been given away, Constable John Denman called on John Jones, claiming the coins, apparently for the landlord, the Esquire of Nantclwyd Hall. Of those disposed of by the finder, a few came into the possession of the late Thos. Roberts, of Brynhyfryd, who died about 1900, but nothing is known of them now. Mr. Ed. Edwards, of Tyn-y-berllan, Pentrefelin, Ruthin, also had a few, which he sold to two young gentlemen from Birmingham, of the name of Lewis. Several found their way to the Rectory, and are preserved by the Rev. Canon C. F. Roberts, F.S.A., Rector of Llanddulas, son of the then Rector, the Rev. D. Roberts. A small number were given to the late Col. Mousley, then agent of the Nantclwyd Estate (died 1918), who, as he informed the writer in a letter dated June 5, 1916, presented them to Sir Edward Naylor Leyland. Other persons who possess or possessed specimens are Mr. Robt. Lloyd, Hendre Bach (Registrar), Llanellidan, and the Rev. Moses M. Jones (died 1924), Llysforfan, Llanrug, who, while Curate of the parish, obtained two from Davies, of Bodlywydd Bach, and two from Goodman Jones, the parish clerk.

Gold Ring. During a visit to the spot in question Anne Davies, of Bryn Hyfryd, Llanellidan, afterwards the first wife of Thos. Roberts, mentioned above, found a gold ring with a stone setting. This she subsequently disposed of for a guinea to a traveller whom she met at Llysfas Mill.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION. Many of the particulars given above were obtained from Mr. Ellis Jones, of Tyn-y-ffynnon, Llanfair, eldest son of J. Jones, the finder of the coins. Several other persons were also interviewed. The scene of discovery was visited with the Rev. J. Morris, Rector of Llanellidan, in the Spring of 1916.

DESCRIPTION. The specimens examined by the writer are third brasses of the Constantine period.

The following, 14 in number, are in the possession of the Rev. Canon C. F. Roberts :—

1. Obverse : Laureated head of Constantine, to right.

Legend : CONSTANTINVS MAX AVG (307–337).

Reverse : Two standards flanked by two soldiers with spears.
 Exergue : Crescent and star. SLG.

2. Ob. and rev. the same as No. 1.

Ex. : R.P.

3. Same as No. 2.

4. Ob. : Laureated head of Constantinus II, to right.

Leg. : FL[AVIVS] JVL[IVS] CONSTANTIVS NOB C[AESAR]
 (323-361).

Rev. : Standard flanked by two soldiers with spears and shields.

Leg. : GLORIA EXERCITVS.

Ex. : TRP.

- 5-8. Ob. : Helmeted head of City of Constantinople, to left.

Leg. : CONSTANTINOPOLIS.

Rev. : Figure of Victory with spear in right hand and shield in left.

Ex. : TR. P.

9. Ob. and rev. same as No. 5.

Ex. : TRS.

10. Ob. : Head of Rome, ad sin.

Leg. : VRBS ROMA.

Rev. : Stars and wreath. Romulus and Remus sucking the wolf.

Ex. : TRP.

11. Ob. : Helm. head, ad sin.

Leg. : ROMA.

Rev. : Romulus and Remus sucking the wolf ; two stars.

Ex. : RS.

- 12-14. Ob. : Laureated head, to right, of Constantine, son of Constantine the Great (Caesar 317, Augustus, 337-340).

Leg. : CONSTANTINVS IVN[IOR] NOB[ILIS] C[AESAR].

Rev. : Like No. 1.

Ex. : TR. S.

In the possession of the late Rev. Moses Morgan Jones, Llysforan, Llanrug :—

15. Ob. and rev. : Like No. 5, but struck in a different mould.

Ex. : TRP.

16. Same as No. 9.

17. Ob. : Like No. 4, but stamped in slightly different mould.

Rev. : Two Standards with wreath between, flanked by two soldiers with spears.

Ex. : S CONS [SECUNDA CONSTANTINA, i.e. Arelate].

In the possession of Mr. Robert Lloyd, Llanellidan :—

- 18*. Ob. : Head of Constantinople, to left.

Leg. : CONSTANTINOPOLIS.

Rev. : Victory like No. 5.

Ex. : B ? SIS [SISCIA].

Size of farthing.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1866, p. 516 ; *Inventory*, No. 335, p. 100.]

* Wrongly described as a *Denarius* in the *Inventory*.

LLANFAIR DYFFRYN CLWYD.**TUMULUS : PLAS EINION.**

SITE. This is to be seen in the meadow immediately to the N. of Plas Einion farmhouse, called Dol Einion, about 100 yds. from the N. hedge (and river Hesbin) and 36 yds. from the W. hedge. Plas Einion is $\frac{3}{4}$ m. S.S.W. of the village of Llanfair.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xix, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 53''$; long. $3^{\circ} 17' 58''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This tumulus has, by agricultural operations, been greatly reduced, but its outlines are still quite distinct. The present height at the centre is $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft., and the circumference at the base about 70 paces. It is turf-covered. Elevation : below contour line 300.

TRADITION. The site is known locally by the name "Bedd y Cawr" (The Giant's Grave), or "Bedd Einion Gawr," the story being that a giant of the name of Einion, who formerly lived at the Plas, was buried in or under the mound.

FORMER CONDITION. Particulars which the writer has been able to obtain with regard to the condition of the mound in days gone by do not quite agree.

Mr. T. O. Roberts, of Bryn Ibod, St. Asaph, son of a late tenant, Jno. Roberts, in a letter dated Sept. 28, 1921, wrote : " My father took over Plas Einion in the year 1852, and Bedd y Cawr was the same as it is at present. Father (born 1801) told me more than once that he saw a tumbled down wall round it in his early days." Mr. J. H. Williams, a son of a later tenant, who took the farm about 1886, informed the writer, Nov. 4, 1924, that his father removed stones from the wall which surrounded the mound. Mr. Jno. Edwards, of 5, Church Walk, Ruthin, an elderly man, told the writer, July 10, 1922, that he remembered a kind of *cistfaen* in the centre of the mound. It measured about 9 ft. by 4 ft., and was composed of 10 or 12 stones, 3 or 4 on either side, and 2 at each end. These were removed by Jno. Williams when he was tenant.

Visited Sept. 20, 1921, and May 18, 1926.

CAIRN : TYN LLANFAIR.

SITE : The position of this is about 2 m. slightly E. of S. of Llanfair Church, and about 600 yds. N.E. of Tyn Llanfair farmhouse. It stands in a field called Traeanau (No. 114 in Tithe map and schedule), at a sharp bend in the hedge on the W. side.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvi, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 42.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 17' 6''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This cairn is composed of stones of the average size of a boy's head, over which thin turf has grown. From the E. side many loads of stone have been carried away, leaving a good-sized depression in the cairn. Over the N. fringe a fence runs, outside which in the adjacent field the base of the cairn has been tampered with. The present diameter, over all, is 23 paces. The height is about 4 ft. Elevation : above contour line 400.

Seen Sept. 28 and Nov. 12, 1925, and May 18, 1926.

CAIRN : MYNYDD CRICOR.

SITE. The position of this cairn, or rather, of its remains, is on a mountain about 3 m. slightly to E. of S. of Llanfair village, and a little over $\frac{1}{4}$ m. E. of Cricor Farm.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvi, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 42''$; long. $3^{\circ} 16' 38''$.]

DESCRIPTION. At present there remains of the cairn but a circular patch of stones, about a foot deep and 22 paces in diameter, overgrown with grass. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

REFERENCES. The cairn is marked on the original 1-in. Ordnance map, and mentioned by the Rev. H. Longueville Jones in his list of Denbighshire Tumuli, etc., in *Arch. Camb.*, 1855, p. 263 : "30. Carn on hill, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. from Llanelidan." It is also referred to in the *Parochialia* (i, p. 149) under Lhan Vair D.C. : "Mae twr o Gerrig yn y Vaenol a elwir Karn Owyll." The spot is still locally known as "Cnywyll" or "Garn Wyll," and the mountain is a sheep-walk belonging to Vaenol Farm, which stands about a mile to the N. The Inspecting Officer of the Commission on Ancient Monuments failed to identify the site (*Inventory*, No. 343, p. 103).

Visited June 27, 1921, and May 6, 1926.

TUMULUS : MYNYDD CRICOR.

SITE. This stands $3\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.S.E. of Llanfair Church, on the S. slope of Mynydd Cricor, 370 yds. or so S.S.W. of the highest point (1,088 ft.).

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvi, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 35.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 16' 20''$.]

DESCRIPTION. It is a small tumulus, about 32 paces in circumference, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height, composed of soil, and covered with grass and bracken. A few of the stones forming a kerb are visible. The surface is somewhat uneven. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. In a letter written to Ed. Lhuyd by John Lloyd, of Ruthin, dated Dec. 29, [16]93 (*Arch. Camb.*, 1851, p. 57), is the following :—"The other end of it [i.e. Tomen y Rhodwydd] abt a mile further, is call'd Moel y Crogwydd, perhaps Crigwydd, and y^t there are some Tumuli on y^e top of it, w^{ch} you shall know in my next." "Crigwydd" is no doubt Cricor—Mynydd Cricor, which is $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. of Tomen y Rhodwydd.

Seen May 4, 1926. Found by Mr. W. J. Hemp.

TUMULUS : BWLCH LLECH.

SITE. This is 2 m. E.N.E. of Llanfair Church, at the top of the pass (Bwlch) between Moel y Plas and Moel Llanfair, on the W. side of the road. The uncultivated land on which it stands belongs to Garth Gynan. A few yards to the S. is another tumulus, described under Llanarmon yn Ial parish.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xx, S.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 5' 35''$; long. $3^{\circ} 14' 34''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The circumference is about 68 paces, and the height about 4 ft. It is composed of soil and covered with heather and wimberry bushes. At the summit is a hole a little over a yard across and about a foot deep. A little of the fringe on the N. side was cut away when the road was constructed. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. See "Tumulus: Bwlch Llech" under Llanarmon yn Ial.

Seen Nov. 4, 1924, and July 28, 1926.

TUMULUS (?) : TYNCELYN.

SITE. The position of this is in the field over the way (w.) from Tyncelyn farmhouse (Cae tros y ffordd), about 74 paces from the road, and 120 from the N. hedge. Tyncelyn is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. of Llanfair village.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xix, s.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 5' 51''$; long. $3^{\circ} 16' 54''$.]

DESCRIPTION. If a tumulus, as seems probable, it is much worn down by cultivation. The present circumference is about 84 paces, and the height about a foot. Elevation : above contour line 200.

Seen Oct. 1, 1923.

CAMP : CRAIG ADWY WYNT.

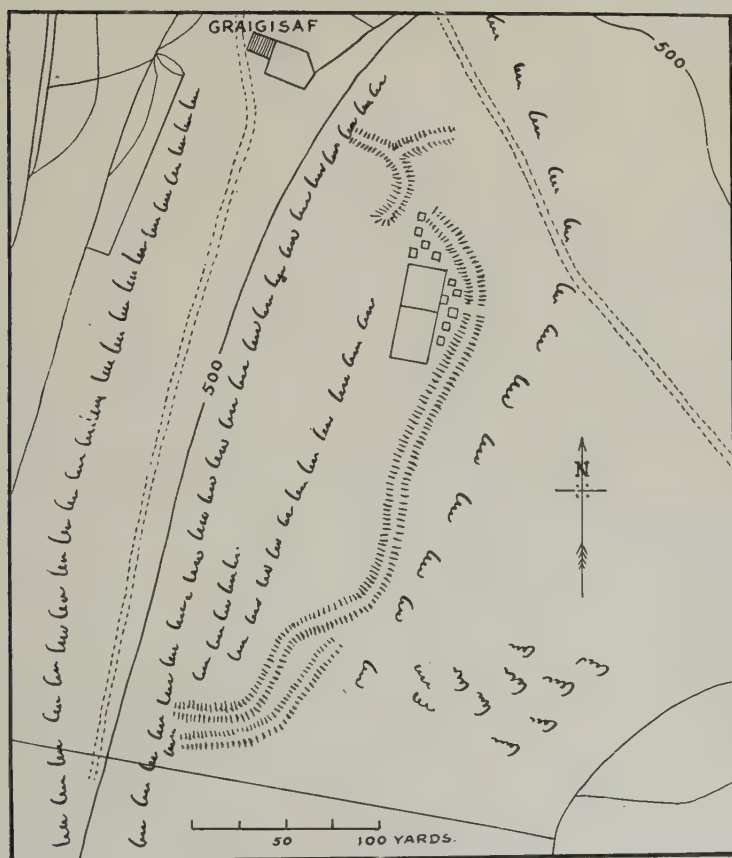


FIG. 63—CRAIG ADWY WYNT CAMP.

SITE. This camp is situated a mile s.w. of Llanfair Church, on the N. end of a limestone ridge—elevation, 500 ft.—known as Craig Adwy Wynt (Wind-gap Wynt).

[6 in. O.S. sheet xix, s.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 40-50''$; long. $3^{\circ} 18' 39-42''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This camp, which bears, or at least bore formerly, the name of "Y Caerau," is roughly semioval in shape, the defence on the w. side, which is more or less straight, being a precipitous rock, and that on the e. side and two ends a rampart curved somewhat bow-like. The area enclosed is about 7 acres, the length being about 350 yds., and the breadth 120 yds. The rampart, which is composed of stone mixed with earth—stone only originally in all probability—is a moderately strong one. At the s. end of the camp, parallel to the main rampart, on the outside, is a second but weaker rampart with an exterior ditch, which extends for about 100 yds. The entrance is near the n.e. corner, about 40 paces from the precipice, where the rampart is still seen to bend in 14 paces on the right-hand side as entering. The incurve on the other side has been destroyed—probably when the modern structures now to be described were erected. About 15 paces to the n.w. of the entrance a low bank runs from the rampart for about 30 paces. This may have formed a kind of outwork to protect the entrance.

Ruined Structures. At the n.e. corner, on the inside, are the ruins of several square huts, with three approaches to them, cut right through the rampart, the sides being walled. Adjoining these huts, to the s.w., are two small enclosures, 19 by 11 and 26 by 18 paces respectively—gardens apparently. Ruined huts are also to be seen in one or two spots on the outside of the rampart. The huts seem to have been built early in the 19th century to accommodate the men who worked the lead mines which were close by. In the early eighties a man of the name of Jack y Miner lived on this site.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES. The camp is not mentioned in the *Parochialia* (Ed. Lhuyd) [Lhan Vair D.C., pt. 1, pp. 147-150], or by any of old topographers and tourists. The first reference to it seems to be in Lewis's *Topographical Dictionary*, 1842² (s.v. Llanvair Dyfryn Clwyd), which is as follows :—"On the summit of Craig-yr-adwy-wynt are some ancient intrenchments, extending in the form of a crescent, and terminating at each extremity in an abrupt precipice : the area of this camp, which is called Y Caerau, 'the fortifications,' comprises about seven acres, and is defended by huge masses of unhewn stone, rudely put together without cement."

Lewis's description is copied in Davis's *Handbook for the Vale of Clwyd* (1857), p. 158, and in *Arch. Camb.*, 1877, p. 30 ("The Lordship of Bromfield, etc.," J. Y. W. Lloyd).

In the *Inventory* of the Ancient Monuments of the County of Denbigh (No. 345, p. 104), the Commissioners remark : "A little be'ow the summit of the northern end . . . the Ordnance survey sheet places a 'camp,' and at the spot indicated are clear indications of human activity. But there is nothing to betoken that the banks and enclosures were intended for the defence of prehistoric or early historic settlers, while there is much in the way of square stone huts to connect it with the agricultural and industrial (lime-burning)

activities of a comparatively recent period. . . . The suggestion of a military earthwork has probably arisen from close propinquity to the undoubtedly historical 'Castell,' as the farmhouse on the side of the hill is called."

Visited in 1916, Mch. 23, 1920, and July 24, 1923.

AVENUE OF STONES (?) : CERRIG LLWYDION.

In the *Parochialia* (i, 149) under Lhan Vair Dyffryn Clwyd appears this entry : " Y Kerrig Lhwydion, a walk of stones described by Parry [of Llwyn Ynn ?] or Will Jones."

" Y Cerrig Llwydion " is presumably " Y Cerrig Llwyd " of the original 1-in. Ordnance map, now " Y Garreg Lwyd," a farm on the old road to Llandegla, about $\frac{3}{4}$ m. E. of Jesus Chapel.

By " a walk of stones " is probably meant a stone avenue. Nothing of the kind now exists at Y Garreg Lwyd. A few boulders however are to be seen near the house, and several are incorporated in the walls of an old kiln close to the gate leading from the road to the farmyard.

Visited Aug. 30, 1928.

ANCIENT ROAD : LLWYN YNN.

COURSE. This track runs N. and S. It is first noticeable—in the northward direction—at a point about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of Llanfair Church, as a continuation southwards of the road which passes the Vicarage. Its course for half-a-mile is plain, but ceases to be traceable in the meadow to the N. of Llwyn Ynn Park. In the park it can be followed again, especially to the S. of the drive, by which it is crossed not far from the stream Hesbin. Here it appears as a hollow track leading in the direction of the bridge which spans the Hesbin, known as the " Roman Bridge." Before it reaches the latter it is bounded on the right-hand side by a wooden fence. Beyond the bridge it is seen as a narrow, hedged-in lane. A little over $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the S.S.W. it passes into Llanelidan parish. Still continuing its course in a southerly direction it enters Bryn Eglwys parish.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvi, N.E.]

CHARACTER. This road seems to have been narrow, and at least in places paved. These features are distinctly noticeable at the " Roman Bridge "—to the S. of it.

Mr. James Owen, of Llanfair, agent for the Llwyn Ynn Estate (died 1923), informed the writer that in 1916, while workmen were digging for building-sand in the park, about 20 yds. W. of the drive and opposite the hall, they exposed at the depth of about a foot a section of a track paved with cobbles averaging about 3 by 6 in. The track was about 2 yds. 6 in. wide, with the surface convex or cambered. The stones were removed but some of them still lie about. Further digging in a northerly direction would doubtless produce similar results.

DATE. When this track was originally constructed it is difficult to say. That it goes back to Roman times is, of course, possible. It

is not unlikely that a Roman road passed this way from Varis or Varae in the direction of Caergai. In favour of such a supposition is the fact that a hoard of Roman coins was discovered in the sixties in Llanelidan parish not far from the course of the track under consideration.

The track in Llwyn Ynn Park was inspected in Jan., 1917.

[*Inventory*, No. 342, p. 103.]

"ROMAN BRIDGE": LLWYN YNN.

SITE. The bridge in question spans the stream Hesbin about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.S.E. of Llwyn Ynn Hall, which is situated about $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. S. of Llanfair Church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvi, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 52''$; long. $3^{\circ} 17' 32''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The dimensions of the bridge are : span, 7 paces ; height of arch from bed of stream, 2 yds. 6 in. ; width, 3 paces. The side walls of the bridge do not rise above the level of the track-way. The latter is cobbled with smallish stones. On the S. side there is a ford. The track on either side of the bridge is very little higher than the level of the stream.

DATE. When the bridge was built it is impossible to say. Locally it is known as "Roman Bridge." That it dates back to Roman times is out of the question, notwithstanding its very venerable appearance. See further notes on "Ancient Road."

OTHER EXAMPLE. There is another ancient bridge bearing the name of Roman Bridge in Carnarvonshire, about $\frac{3}{4}$ m. S.W. of Dolwyddelan.

Visited Jan., 1917.

STONE AXE: LLWYN YNN.

DISCOVERY. In a note by J. G. Harris deposited with the implement at the Carnarvon Free Library, where it is preserved, the discovery is thus described : "The stone head of the axe was found in Coed Cochion wood [Llwyn Ynn] in the parish of Llanfair D.C. in cutting a deep trench or drain on the north side of the hill to carry off water in the year 1837. It was about $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. under the surface and was struck near the point by the workman's pick-axe. No other similar stone was discovered in the ground though opened at the time nearly 250 yards from east to west, from Werglodd Goch to Cae Coed in Plas Einion Farm. Gabriel Davies, of Llwyn Ynn, was superintending the work, and observed the stone thrown aside, and immediately took it up in its present state. It lay in a stratum of clay boggy ground. It appears to have been fixed to a handle or staff by leather thongs or iron fastenings. It is similar to the stone axe of New South Wales as given in Governor Phillip's account, 1788. Note by J. G. Harris. There are 4 or 5 stones of similar form in a Museum at Keswick (Crostwhaites [*sic*] said to be found in Cumberland." In a letter from Archdeacon Newcome [given below], dated "Cloisters, Ruthin, May 17, 1849" [also deposited with the Celt] is

the following postscript :—" It should be illustrated in your catalogue raisonnè as having been found under the roots of an oak tree in Coed Cochion . . . 3 or 4 feet in the ground."

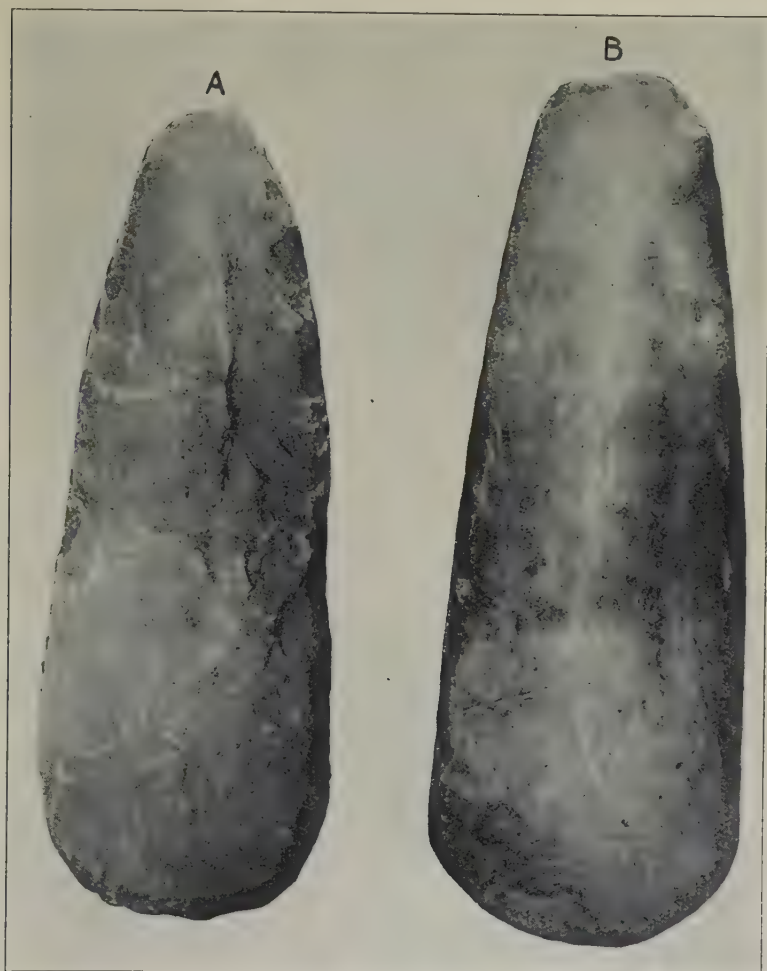


FIG. 64—STONE CELTS AT CAERNARVON FREE LIBRARY LABELLED "FROM LLWYN YNN" ($\frac{1}{2}$).

Coed Cochion, where the axe was discovered, is $\frac{3}{4}$ m. slightly to the E. of S. of Llanfair village, while Werglodd Goch (No. 11 in the Tithe schedule) is 200 yds. or so to the S.S.W. of Llwyn Ynn Lodge, on the E. side of the drive, and Cae Coed (No. 17 in the Tithe schedule) about 200 yds. farther to the S.S.W. on the same side of the drive.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvi, N.E.]

SUBSEQUENT HISTORY. The finder apparently handed the axe to Mr. J. H. Harris, who resided at the time [1837] at Llwyn Ynn. In September, 1848, the Ven. Archdeacon R. Newcome, Warden of

Ruthin, with the permission of Mr. Harris, who had now left Llwyn Ynn, sent the implement to the exhibition held at Caernarvon in connection with the visit of the *Cambrian Archaeological Association* to that town. Subsequently, that is, in May, 1849, it was loaned to the Museum of the Caernarvon, Anglesey, and Merioneth Natural History Society*, housed originally in quarters given for the purpose by the Marquis of Anglesey, in Church Street, but removed subsequently by Llewelyn Turner to the Castle. About 1910 the celt was, with other objects of interest, transferred to the Caernarvon Free Library, where it is exhibited in a show case.

DESCRIPTION. When the writer visited the Caernarvon Free Library Sept. 20, 1920, and subsequently, there were two stone axes in the show case labelled as having been found at Llwyn Ynn in 1837. (1) One is of a light grey stone [from Graig Lwyd, Penmaenmawr?], roughly hewn, and measuring 8 in. long, 3 in. wide, and 1 in. thick. (2) The other is made of a hard, chert-like, yellowish stone, and beautifully polished all over. It has a very fine cutting edge, in which are no dints. Its dimensions are: length, 9 in.; breadth, across the cutting edge, $3\frac{1}{4}$ in.; thickness, about $2\frac{1}{4}$ in.

There is no evidence that two axes were discovered at Llwyn Ynn. In the absence of any description of the one actually found there in both Mr. Harris's letter and in the Catalogue of the Temporary Museum held in connection with the Ruthin Meeting of the *Cambrian Archaeological Association* in 1854, at which it was exhibited [*Arch. Camb.*, 1854, p. 251: "Stone axe found at Llwyn Yn:—Carnarvon Museum"] one is dependent, in order to identify the implement, on certain clues supplied in Mr. J. G. Harris's note. One is the remark that it was "similar to the stone axe of New South Wales as given in Governor Phillip's account, 1788." The axe in question, which is figured, but not described, in *Voyage to Botany Bay, etc.*, 1788, by Arthur Phillip (Governor of N.S. Wales), 1789 [Plate facing p. 136], seems to resemble the polished axe at Caernarvon. Another clue is the statement that the Llwyn Ynn implement appeared to have been fixed to a handle by leather thongs or iron fastenings. The polished axe shows unmistakable signs of having been hafted, there being around the middle a band of brown stained surface.

BRONZE PALSTAVE: LLWYN YNN.

DISCOVERY. All that is known about the discovery of this implement is that it was picked up somewhere on Llwyn Ynn land by the late Mr. James Franklin Preston, the occupier, about 1860. Llwyn Ynn is $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. s. of the village of Llanfair.

* Cf. Archdeacon Newcome's letter referred to above, which is here appended: "Sir. With reference to yours of the 1st inst. in which you request me to present to the Natural History, etc., Society of Carnarvon the very curious though *unnatural* stone instrument exhibited for me at the last Archaeological Meeting held there, I have to reply . . . that I am really not the proprietor of the curious relic probably of the antient Britons. However for the present I only request you to send me on behalf of the Society an acknowledgement that the article belongs to J. H. Harris, Esq., late of Llwyn Ynn, in the parish of Llanfair D.C., and by his permission was sent by me to be exhibited as before stated, and that it shall be restored on *application* to the said gentleman or to yours faithfully, R. Newcome."

DESCRIPTION. It is a palstave without a loop. The flanges are fairly deep ; they extend beyond the stop-ridges, which are somewhat low, and form a shield-shaped ornament, 1 in. long, on either side. A considerable part of the surface is covered with an enamel-like



FIG. 65—BRONZE PALSTAVE, LLWYN YNN.

patination of green-brown colour. Dimensions : length, $6\frac{1}{2}$ in. ; breadth of cutting edge, $3\frac{1}{8}$ in. ; length of tang, $2\frac{5}{8}$ in. ; breadth of flange, 1 in. Weight, 1 lb. 2 oz.

PRESENT LOCATION. The palstave is in the possession of Miss E. M. Preston (a daughter of the finder), Craig Lea, Llandudno, who kindly lent it to the writer Nov. 8, 1928.

BRONZE PALSTAVE : PLAS UCHAF.

DISCOVERY. The palstave was discovered in 1902 in an old working in a quarry situate in a plantation just to the s.w. of Plas Uchaf in Llanfair Parish, but quite near the borders of Llanellidan, and about midway between the two parish churches.

The implement was found by workmen engaged by Mr. Peter Edwards, Builder, of Doddleston, Chester, who was at the time re-building Bryn Ffynnon close by. The discovery was made whilst clearing *débris* from the rock preliminary to quarrying the requisite stone.

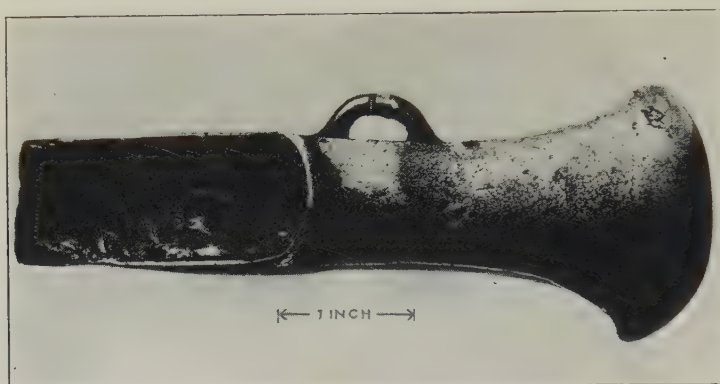


FIG. 66—BRONZE PALSTAVE, PLAS UCHAF.

SUBSEQUENT HISTORY. It was purchased from the finders by Mr. Kirkham, acting foreman to Mr. Peter Edwards, who, after carefully polishing it (!), presented it to Colonel Mousley, of Cefn-y-gader (died June, 1918), a former agent of the Nantclwyd Estate. Colonel Mousley gave it to the late Mr. George Vyvyan Naylor Leyland, killed in action in France, 1915.

DESCRIPTION. The palstave, which is looped, is a little over 5 in. long and 2 in. across the cutting edge. The flanges are somewhat shallow and joined together by a semi-circular stop-ridge.

AUTHORITY. The above information was obtained in 1916 from Colonel Mousley, who also kindly supplied the photograph.

BRONZE PALSTAVE : PWLL CALLOD.

DISCOVERY. This implement was found by the late Mr. Thomas Powell, brother of Mr. Richard Powell, Parish Clerk of Llanaber Merionethshire, in a field belonging to Pwll-Callod Farm, on the slope of Craig Adwy Wynt, while working on the railway line that was being made between Denbigh and Corwen in 1861.

DESCRIPTION. The palstave is 7 in. long and 4 in. across the broadest part of the blade. The haft end or tang is flanged and has stop-ridges continuous with the flanges. On either side of the blade is a midrib.

PRESENT LOCATION Until 1919 the palstave was in the possession of Mr. R. Powell, Llanaber, who, in that year, presented it to his



FIG. 67—PALSTAVE, PWLL CALLOD.

nephew, Captain Edwin H. Powell (son of Henry Powell), of California, who had come over to Europe to take part in the Great War (1914–18).

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1910, p. 323 ; *Inventory*, No. 346, p. 104.]

BRONZE DAGGER: EYARTH ROCKS.

In the *Parochialia* (pt. ii, p. 23) occurs the following note from a certain Mr. R. W. Marbles (Bodleian MS., Rawlinson, B. 464, fol. 10a) : —“ The Br. Dagger from Mr. Andrew Thelwall was found in the Limestone Rocks at Eyarth in the parish of Lhan-Vair Dyffr[yn] Clwyd.” The same note occurs also at the foot of page 148, pt. i : “ The British Dagger . . . Edw. Llwyd.”

The dagger in question was evidently discovered on Craig Adwy Wynt, and possibly near or within the area of the camp.

SPOON-SHAPED RELICS : FFYNOGION.

DISCOVERY. These objects, two in number, were found in 1861 just to the s. of Ffynogion, a farm about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the s. of Ruthin, among the sand thrown up during the excavations for the railway between Denbigh and Corwen. They were first noticed by Mr. Hugh Jones, of Caegroes, Ruthin*, as he walked along the cutting. When found they were firmly attached face to face by the incrustation of *aerugo* (rust) on the metal.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xix, s.E.]

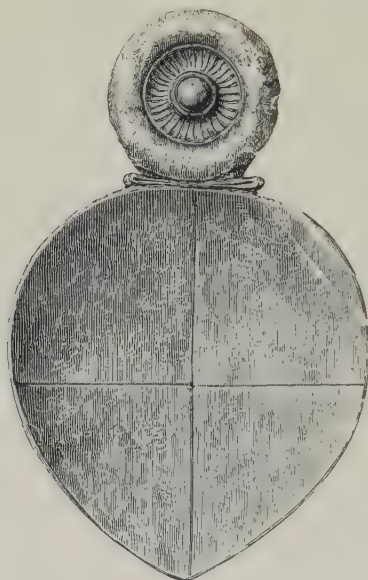


FIG. 68—ONE OF THE LLANFAIR
" SPOONS " ($\frac{1}{2}$).

DESCRIPTION. The relics in question are a pair of spoon-like bronze objects, consisting of bowls and short handles, both of which were apparently cast in the same mould. Their dimensions are as follows :—Length, 3 in. ; diameter of handle, $1\frac{3}{4}$ in., and of bowl, $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. The bronze of which they are made is said to contain an unusual proportion of copper.

On one of them are engraved two lines, which intersect each other at right angles in the centre, and at the margin of the other is a fracture which appears to be a small perforation made in or very near the edge.

OTHER EXAMPLES. Nineteen other bronze spoons are known to have been found in the British Isles, and two in France. One was discovered in the Thames, another in Thames Street, London, a pair at Crosby, Ravensworth, Cumberland, a pair at Weston, Bath, a pair at Penbryn, Cardiganshire, two pairs in Dublin, and a pair at Upper Walmer, Deal. The last pair was found with a skeleton—a

* Mr. Hugh Lloyd Jones was a son of Mr. Roger Jones, of Caegroes, and first cousin to Miss Grace Jones (died 1924), of Plas Llanynys. He died many years ago out in British Guiana.

spoon on each side of the skull. A pair was also discovered in Berwickshire, near Burnmouth, in 1923, between the hands and the skull of a skeleton, in a stone-built grave, together with an iron knife, and bones of a young pig. One spoon in each *pair* had a cross extending to the edge of the bowl. Some had a perforation, always on the same edge of the bowl.

The first four of the above are preserved at the British Museum. See *Guide to the Antiquities of the Early Iron Age* in the British Museum, where the first mentioned is illustrated (fig. 125, p. 136). The Penybryn (Cardiganshire) pair, the only specimens besides the Llanfair ones recorded from Wales, are in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, with electrotype copies at the Cardiff and Aberystwyth Museums.

USE AND DATE. It has been maintained, as for instance by the Rev. Dr. D. Rock (*Arch. Camb.*, 1871, pp. 1–20), that these articles were Chrism spoons used in the Celtic rite of Baptism. An earlier date, however, is now assigned to them. Mr. J. E. Couchman, F.S.A. (*Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of London*, 2nd Series [1918–1919], vol. xxxi, pp. 108–115), has argued that they are the Bronze Age successors of the clay spoons of the Neolithic period, specimens of which have been discovered in various parts of Europe, including two in Sussex. From the fact that in nearly all cases these latter were found with interments, Mr. Couchman concluded that these “spoons” formed part of the obsequies of the dead. The right view as to their date, as the style of ornament on their handles testifies, is that they belong to the La Tène or Late Celtic period. Their purpose has been a matter of much speculation. A recent suggestion (see Macalister’s *Archaeology of Ireland*, 1927, p. 156) is that they are castanets, that is, musical instruments fastened to the thumb and beaten together with the middle finger (Lat. *Castanea*=chestnut). The most reasonable view, however, is that they were actual spoons.

PRESENT LOCATION. The Llanfair “spoons” are preserved (with two other pairs) in the National Museum of Antiquities, Queen Street, Edinburgh, having been presented to that institution in 1863 by the late Rev. E. L. Barnwell, who acquired them from the finder.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1870, p. 203 ; 1871, pp. 1 ff. ; *Inventory*, No. 347, p. 104. *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, lviii (1923–24), pp. 143 ff.]

ROMAN COIN.

In the Ashmole MS., 1829, kept at the Bodleian Library, Oxford, fol. 114, in a letter (on the back of which is “London”) sent to Ed. Lhuyd by one Richard Jones [LL. D., Chancellor of Bangor, 1672, Rector of Llanychan, 1675, deprived as a non-juror, 1691 ; died 1730, and was buried at Llanychan Mch 28*] and dated Mar. 15, [16]9⁷ is the following account of a Roman coin found presumably in Llanfair Parish :—“Mr. Edwards [Richard Edwards, M.A., Vicar of Llanfair D.C., 1694–1740] hath lately bought from a country woman a Roman medal which hath on y^e fair-side this inscription C. Caesar, dictator perpetuo, and on y^e Reverse a winged caduceus, an ax, and 2 hands joyned together, and underwritten Leuca . . .”

* Diocese of St. Asaph, by D. R. Thomas, vol. ii, p. 110.

A denarius identical, or very similar, is illustrated in H. Mattingly's *Roman Coins* (1928), pl. xix, No. 10 (cf. p. 280):—

Obverse: Head of Caesar, to right.

Leg.: CAESAR DICT PERPETVO.

Reverse: Two hands clasped, caduceus, axe, etc.

Leg.: L. BVCA [moneyer]. Date: 44 B.C.

LLANFAIR TALHAEARN.

TUMULI: RHOSDOMEN.

I.

SITE. One of these is situated in an enclosed waste on the N.W. side of the road leading from Llansannan to Gwytherin, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. of the former village and about 2 m. N.E. of the latter. The exact position is 40 paces from the S. hedge of the rhos or ffridd and 230 from that on the W. The land belongs to Cornwall Isa; tenant, Mr. Jno. Davies; owner, Mrs. MacNicol, Derwas (until 1926).

[6 in. O.S. sheet xii, S.W.: lat. $53^{\circ} 9' 44''$; long. $3^{\circ} 38' 40''$.]

DESCRIPTION. In circumference this is about 120 paces, and in height 7 or 8 ft. It is composed of soil and covered with turf, bracken, gorse, and heather. There are no signs that it has been tampered with. Elevation: above contour line 800.

II.

SITE. This stands in the rhos on the opposite side of the road to No. 1, about 70 paces from the N. hedge and 143 from the W.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xii, S.W.: lat. $53^{\circ} 9' 39''$; long. $3^{\circ} 38' 41''$.]

DESCRIPTION. In size and composition it is very similar to No. 1. It likewise is covered with turf, bracken, and gorse, and undisturbed.

III.

SITE. The third is in a cultivated field, 180 paces to the S. of No. 2 and 90 paces from the road to the W.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xii, S.W.: lat. $53^{\circ} 9' 36''$; long. $3^{\circ} 38' 43''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This is considerably larger than Nos. 1 and 2, but it is not easy to ascertain the circumference, as a hedge runs over the W. half, which has undergone considerable disturbance. Its height seems to be about 12 ft. It has been cultivated, and is covered with turf.

IV.

About 110 paces from No. 1, 140 paces from the road to the S., and 63 from that to the W. is a low mound 1 ft. high and 53 paces in circumference, which may be the remains of another tumulus.

Seen May, 1913, and Oct. 5, 1925.

[Inventory, No. 351, p. 105.]

TUMULUS : NANT CORNWAL.

SITE. This is situated about $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. s.s.w. of Llanfair, in a field called Ffrith Isaf, which is about 300 yds. s.w. of the homestead of Nant Cornwall Farm, to which the field belongs (owner and occupier, Mr. Evan Roberts). Its position in the field is close to the E. hedge, and about 100 yds. from the path which leads along the N. side of the field from Cornwall Canol to Nant Cornwall.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xii, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 9' 51''$; long. $3^{\circ} 38' 7''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The hedge referred to above has been raised over the E. fringe of the tumulus, and the portion of the mound abutting on the hedge has been cut away so as to make room for a ditch to carry away surface water. So only about two-thirds of the tumulus remains. It is composed of soil and covered with turf. Its circumference would be about 70 paces and height 4 ft. Nothing of interest has been noticed in the section made for the ditch. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

Seen Oct. 5, 1925.

TUMULUS : PEN-Y-MWDWL.

SITE. This stands on elevated ground, known as Pen-y-Mwdwl, a little over 200 yds. due w. of the modern house Llety yr Eos, which is nearly 1 m. N.W. of Llansannan Church, and 2 m. S. of Llanfair village.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xii, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 11' 16''$; long. $3^{\circ} 36' 46''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The tumulus is a small one, measuring about 36 paces in circumference and $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. It is composed of soil and covered with turf and mountain grass. All around gorse grows. The surface of the mound is not quite even, especially on the s.w. side. Its altitude is 1,183 ft.

NAME OF SITE. "Pen-y-Mwdwl" signifies "The top or height of the cock or stack." Three hundred yards to the S. is a holding called "Mwdwl Eithin." "Mwdwl" and "Mwdwl Eithin" occur elsewhere as the names of eminences on which tumuli are situated, as for instance in the parishes of Eglwys Bach and Llanellian, but they refer, not to tumuli, but to the beacons that were formerly lighted as signals on these sites.

Seen Dec. 28, 1926.

SMALL TUMULUS : MYNYDD BODROCHWYN.

SITE. This stands on the highest point (918 ft.) of Mynydd Bodrochwyn, about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. slightly E. of S. of Bodrochwyn Fawr farmstead.

[6 in. O.S. sheet vii, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 14' 16''$; long. $3^{\circ} 35' 21''$.]

DESCRIPTION. A very small tumulus, it measures only 16 paces in circumference and $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. The summit has been hollowed out and the soil thrown on the sides, rendering the latter a little uneven. The whole is covered with mountain turf.

Seen July 23, 1928.

CAE GARNEDD.

A field bearing the above name (No. 406 in the Tithe map) is situated immediately to the E. of the Calvinistic Methodist Chapel, known as Capel Garnedd, which stands at the junction of three roads leading respectively to Llanfair, Llansannan, and Llangernyw, about a mile E. of the last-mentioned village. The field belongs to Hendre Farm.

There is at present no trace of a cairn in the field in question, neither is there extant any tradition of one. The field is traversed by a ridge with several outcrops of rock, one or two of which somewhat resemble a cairn. It is, however, quite possible that a "carnedd" once stood in the field and has, like so many others, been destroyed.

Visited in 1914.

SEPULCHRAL VESSELS: MELAI.

AUTHORITY. 1. In an Estate Survey of 1802, now in the possession of the Hon. Fred. G. Wynn, of Glynllivon, Carnarvonshire, owner of Melai Farm, mention is made of a field belonging to this farm, on which was a "tumulus containing jugs and vases." The above information was obtained from the Hon. F. G. Wynn, June 6, 1925.

2. On June 29, 1925, Mr. Wm. Davies (aged 76), of Petryal, who was in service at Melai as a boy, informed the writer that he had often heard of "eirch potiau" (earthenware coffins!) having been found in the field called Dyffryn Uchaf.

SITE. The field in question is at present a part of the second field to the N. of Melai farmhouse, and the second to the E. of the bridge over Nant Melai—Pont Tanygraig—known as Caeau Dwr.

The pots were found, according to Davies, not far from the N.W. corner of the field as turf was being cut to mend the hedge. Some 100 yds. E. of the said corner, close to the hedge, is a circular swelling of the ground which might be the site of a tumulus.

[6 in. O.S. sheet vii, s.w. : lat. 53° 12' 5" ; long. 3° 38' 39".]

Site visited June 29, 1925.

BRONZE PALSTAVE : FELIN GREPOG.

DISCOVERY. This implement was discovered by Mr. Elias Jones (died 1923), Tainewyddion, Pont-y-ddol, Llannefydd, about the year 1890, while making a pond at the Felin Grepog (now, Tyddyn Clefi) lead mine, Llanfair Talhaearn. It lay about 3 yds. deep. The site is $\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. of the village.

[6 in. O.S. sheet vii, s.E. : lat. 53° 13' 2" ; long. 3° 35' 38" (approx.).]

DESCRIPTION. The greater part of the blade of the palstave has been broken off, leaving only about 1½ in. The tang is nearly 3 in. long. The flanges are fairly deep. Beyond the stop-ridges, which are straight, on either side of the blade, is a shield-shaped ornament.

PRESENT LOCATION. The finder presented the implement through the writer to the St. Asaph Cathedral Library on July 17, 1918. Photo, p. 413.

QUERN STONES : GWERN Y CILIAU.

Two quern stones were, until 1926, to be found outside the front of Gwern y Ciliau house. The then owner and occupier, Mr. T. H. Jones (died 1927), whose ancestors have held the farm for generations, always remembered them there.

One—an upper stone—is 21 inches in diameter and 4 in. thick, with a central hole 4 in. across. On the inside it is concave, and on the outside convex. The other, a nether stone, which is broken in two, is $20\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter and $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. in thickness, with a central perforation $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. across. The inside of this is convex.

Mr. Jones, in October, 1926, placed the stones in the vestry of Llanfair Church for safe preservation.

Seen March 24, 1925.

SPINDLE WHORL : PLAS ONN.

This was discovered in 1924 by Mr. Lloyd Williams, of Plas Onn, near the house, which is about $1\frac{3}{4}$ m. S.E. of Llangernyw Church. It is made out of a rounded pebble about $1\frac{3}{4}$ in. in diameter. The perforation seems to have been bored from both sides. It is now in the possession of Mr. W. F. Barnwell, School House, Llangernyw.

Seen in March, 1928.

LLANFERRES.

REMAINS OF CAIRNS : MOEL FAMAU.

I.

SITE. The remains of a cairn are to be seen $\frac{3}{4}$ m. slightly w. of s. of the summit of Moel Famau, close to the wire fence which follows the w. boundary line of Llanferres parish, and 70 paces or so E. of the foot-path leading from Bwlch Pen Barras to the top of the Moel.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xiv, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 8' 32''$; long. $3^{\circ} 15' 23''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The remains in question consist of a discontinuous ring, 60 paces in circumference (outside), of piled-up stones about $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. high, with heaps inside. The bulk of the material was no doubt removed for building the walls that are further N., or the tower on the summit. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

II.

SITE. The remains of another cairn are situated 117 paces to the w.s.w. of No. 1, and 25 paces w. of the path to the top of the mountain. [Lat. $53^{\circ} 8' 30''$; long. $3^{\circ} 15' 29''$.]

DESCRIPTION. As regards size this is much smaller than No. 1. Its circumference is not easy to determine owing to its having undergone considerable disturbance whereby its stones were spread, but it seems to be about 30 paces. A hole has been made in the centre down to the bottom. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

Seen Aug. 2 and Sept. 30, 1927.

CAIRN SITES : MAES Y GARNEDD.

The names of two fields, viz. Maes y Garnedd and Cae'r Garnedd, belonging to the farm of Maes y Garnedd, testify to the existence at one time of cairns, of which no traces now remain beyond some stones—if these latter ever formed part of cairns.

Maes y Garnedd farmhouse is situated about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.N.E. of the parish church of Llanferres, and the fields in question—Cae'r Garnedd and Maes y Garnedd—lie respectively about 700 yds. s.w. and 150 yds. E. of the homestead, the former immediately to the s.e. of the house of Cae'r Odyn, and the latter between a mill lead and the lodge of Colomendy.

Visited Nov. 18, 1924.

ROMAN COINS : MOEL FENLLI.

I.

DISCOVERY. In July, 1816, a hoard of more than 1,500 Roman coins (principally denarii) was found lying on the surface of the inner rampart of the Moel Fenlli camp on the N.E. They had been exposed to view by an extensive conflagration of the heather.

SUBSEQUENT HISTORY. At present the whereabouts of only 43 are known, the great bulk having been lost sight of. The 43 referred to are preserved in the Grosvenor Museum, Chester, having been presented by the late Rev. F. A. Potts, in April, 1899. The Potts family, who owned about half the parish of Llanferres, lived at Glanrafon until the estate was broken up and sold in 1919.

According to S. Lewis (*Topographical Dictionary*, 1842² [1st ed. 1833], s.v. Llanbedr D.C.) several coins of this hoard found in 1816, “nearly in the centre of the camp,” were then “preserved at Llanbedr Hall.”

DESCRIPTION. A list of the coins preserved at the Chester Museum is herewith given (Museum Catalogue, No. 91):—

10 Constantinus Magnus (307–37 A.D.): *Gloria Exercitus*.

9 Constantinus II Junior (337–40): *Gloria Exercitus*.

4 Constantius II (337–61): *Gloria Exercitus*.

8 Constantinopolis (Constantine period): *Victory*.

4 Urbs Roma: wolf suckling Remus and Romulus.

1 Helena: *Pax Publica*. In exergue TRP.

3 Constans (337–50): *Gloria Exercitus*.

1 Constans: *Victoriae* DD AVGG NN.

3 Illegible.

Seen Oct. 30, 1922, and subsequently.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1847, p. 109; 1850, p. 87; 1923, pp. 304–5.]

II.

DISCOVERY. A further discovery of Roman coins, spoken of in 1847 as “lately found” (*Arch. Camb.*, 1847, p. 109), was made by the tenant of Bryn Saeson Uchaf, about a mile N.N.W. of Llanferres Church, “on his sheep walk near the summit of the mountain” [Moel Fenlli].

The exact number found is not known, but a fourth of them came into the possession of the late Mr. Joseph Ablett, of Llanbedr Hall (died 1848), the remainder having been sold before he heard of them.

DESCRIPTION. Thirteen specimens of those owned by Mr. Ablett are described in *Arch. Camb.* for 1847, pp. 109 ff. They are :—

1. Obverse : Laureated head, to left.
Legend : IMP ANTO[NINVS P]IVS AVG.
Reverse : Figure to left.
Leg. : P? M TRP COS III PP. Silver.
2. Obv. : Laureated head of Constantinus II.
Leg. : CONSTANTINVS IVN NOB C.
Rev. : Two standards between two soldiers.
Leg. : GLORIA EXERCITVS. Brass.
3. Similar to No. 2.
Rev. : Labarum flanked by two soldiers.
Exergue : TRS.
4. Obv. : Laureated head of one of the Constantine family.
Leg. : Obliterated.
Rev. : URBS ROMA.
Ex. : TRP.
5. Obv. : A helmeted head and visor [i.e. face] to right.
Leg. : URBS ROMA.
6. Obv. : Helmeted head to right.
Leg. : CONSTANTINOPOLIS.
7. Obv. : Laureated head of Constantine the Great, to left.
Leg. : CONSTANTINVS MAX AVG.
Rev. : Like No. 2.
8. Obv. : Laureated head of Constans, to left.
Leg. : FL IVL CONSTANS NOB CAES.
Rev. : Same as No. 2 with a wreath between the standards.
Ex. : IAS [? SIS].
9. Obv. : Laureated head of Constans, to left.
Leg. : FL IVL CONSTANS NOB CAES.
Rev. : Same as No. 2.
10. Obv. : Laureated head, to left.
Leg. : [CONSTANTI]NVS MAX AVG.
Rev. : Same as No. 2.
Ex. : P CONST.
11. Obv. : Laureated head, to left.
Leg. : FL IVL CONSTANT.
Rev. : Same as No. 2.
Ex. : TRP.
12. Obv. : Helmeted head, to right.
Leg. : VRBS ROMA.
Rev. : Same as No. 5, with a palm branch between the stars in the upper field.
Ex. : TRP.
13. Obv. : Same as No. 5, with only two stars in the upper field.

PRESENT LOCATION. What became of Mr. Ablett's coins is not known.

ROMAN COIN : MAES HAFN.

DISCOVERY. This was found in January, 1923, by Capt. Penrhyn Jones, then of Llwyn Moelyn, Llanferres (formerly of Beaumaris), on the surface of an old lead-mine "tip" at Maes Hafn, on the west bank of the River Alun, between Pont y Mwynwr and Glanrafon, a little over $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.N.E. of the parish church.

DESCRIPTION. Obverse : Head of Gallienus (253-268 A.D.), radiate, to right.

Legend : GALLIENVS AVG[USTUS].

Reverse : Hippocamp (sea-horse), to right.

Legend : NEPTUNO CONS[ervatori] AUG[usti].

Æ [Brass] 3.

PRESENT LOCATION. The coin was in March, 1923, presented by the finder (through the Rector of Llanferres, the Rev. J. Rees) to the writer, who intends depositing the same in the Chapter House of St. Asaph Cathedral for preservation.

LLANFIHANGEL GLYN MYFYR.

CIRCLES.

I (HAFOD-WEN).

SITE. The position of this is near the centre of a field called Ffridd Ddu, about 800 yds. to the w.s.w. of the farmstead of Hafodwen, to which it belongs, and $\frac{3}{4}$ m. N.W. of Llanfihangel Church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxv, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 19''$; long. $3^{\circ} 31' 17''$.]

DESCRIPTION. Of this circle the only trace now remaining is a hollowed ring or circular fosse, 46 yds. in diameter from N. to S. and 40 yds. from E. to W. The colour of the hay growing in the ring was noticed to be different from that of the rest of the field. On the E. side the fosse is not clear. Before it was destroyed in the process of cultivating the field between 1890 and 1900, the enclosing bank, composed of stones with an admixture of soil, was very pronounced. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. A writer in the Welsh publication, entitled *Y Brython* (vol. v, 1862-3, p. 101), thus refers to the circle : "A quarter of a mile from Llanfihangel Rectory in the direction of Cerrig-y-drudion, on somewhat wet ground, and half-way perhaps between Pen-y-gaer and Caer Ddunod, is a low circular and continuous [or regular] bank. The place is too small to have been a stronghold of the brave Cymry, and too large to have been a cock-pit of former days" [Translated].

Seen June 8, 1927.

II (NANT TAN-Y-FOEL).

SITE. This lies in the N. angle of a field called Bryn Crach, 200 yds. to the N.E. of the farmhouse of Nant Tan-y-foel, and $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W. of Llanfihangel Parish Church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxv, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 12''$; long. $3^{\circ} 31' 0''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The bank of this circle has been despoiled of the bulk of the stones that formed it, a large number of loads having been carried away by the present tenant, Mr. Owen Jones. The bank is still quite distinct. Its present width is about 4 yds. and height from $\frac{1}{2}$ ft. to 1 ft. The diameter of the circle is 40 paces. In 1924 Mr. O. Jones picked up in the area a spindle whorl and another worked stone, cylindrical in shape, 5 in. long by 1 in. across, with a notch around at the middle. Elevation: above contour line 1,000.

III (TYDDYN TUDUR).

SITE. This is situated about 650 yds. to the w. of Tyddyn Tudur, which is less than $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W. of Llanfihangel Church, in a field called Ffridd-y-garreg-lefn, 70 paces from the N. hedge and 45 paces from that on the E. side along which a path runs.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxv, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 0''$; long. $3^{\circ} 31' 40''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This is a large circle, measuring 194 paces in circumference along the top of the encircling bank and 65 paces in diameter. The bank, which is somewhat low, is composed of small stones, and covered with turf. On the w. side there is a fairly big gap. The bank unfortunately is in course of being destroyed. Elevation: above contour line 1,000.

IV.

In the field immediately to the w. of that in which No. 3 stands, close to the s. hedge, is a diamond-shaped enclosure, 27 paces long by 20 wide. The enclosing bank is similar to that of the circles.

Seen Aug. 5, 1926.

CIRCLE: CAER DDUNOD.

SITE. This is situated a little under $\frac{1}{2}$ m. s.w. of Caer Ddunod farmhouse, near the s.w. corner, that is, 60 paces from the w. fence and 50 from the s. fence, of an enclosed sheep-walk belonging to the farm.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxv, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 3.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 31' 19''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The circle consists of a ring of earth much worn down, about $\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height and 20 paces in circumference. There is nothing inside. Elevation: above contour line 1,250.

Seen June 7, 1927.

CAMP: CAER DDUNOD.

SITE. This camp is situated on the right, that is, the s.w. bank of the River Alwen, about a mile and three-quarters N. of the church of Llanfihangel G.M.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxv, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 17-25''$; long. $3^{\circ} 30' 47-56''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The camp crowns a small hillock, 1,000 ft. above Ordnance datum, oval in shape, some 700 paces in circumference at the base and rising about 100 ft. on the river side. The valley of the Alwen at this point is somewhat narrow, the little hill standing in the middle. The evidences of fortification at present are meagre, consisting

only of great quantities of loose stones on the slopes, and especially on the w. side, together with a weak rampart and fosse at the bottom extending from near the River Alwen at the n.w. corner to about the middle of the s.w. side at a distance of 15 yds. or so from the foot of the hill. There may possibly be vestiges of a rampart also on the s.e. side between the wall of the field occupying the summit and the edge of the hillock. Outside the supposed defences at this point are the remains of a structure of some kind. A little to the n. on this same side was the entrance*, up to which a track leads.

The site has never been excavated, but the field (about 3 acres) on the top has been frequently ploughed. No finds of interest are known to have been made on or near the site.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES. The following description of the camp is given by the Rev. J. Lloyd, Warden of Ruthin (1682–1713), in an undated letter, written probably about 1690, to Ed. Lhuyd, of the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford [Ashmole MS., 1829, fol. 171: Bodleian Library, Oxford]: “Fr thence [i.e. Pen-y-Gaer Fawr] I went to Caer-ddynod abt a mile of Lhanfychangel, it is a huge heap of stones, if it be y^e ruins of anything, standing close to y^e river Alwen’s side, abt a hundred yeards perpendicularly high on y^e river side, and not half so much in other parts. It is round or oval rather, and I could observe nothing in it to show y^t ’twas y^e remains of any artificial fort besides y^e name and abundance of loose stones. It is divided into two smal closes on y^e top et seges est ubi Troja fuit This Caer-ddynod lies in a very odd nook of y^e world, and hardly to be seen, till you come just by it.”

In Bishop Edmund Gibson’s edition of Camden’s *Britannia* (Annotations by Edward Lhuyd), 1695, p. 686, the Caer is thus described: “This is situate close to the River Alwen, and is rather of an oval form than circular. The Dike or Rampire consists of a vast quantity of stone, at present rudely heap’d together, but whether formerly in any better order, is uncertain. On the river side it’s about 300 feet high perpendicularly, but not half that height elsewhere.”

The fort is not referred to in the *Parochialia* (Ed. Lhuyd, 1699), but “Kaer Dhynod” appears as the name of one of the “Houses of Note” in the parish, and “Swch Kaer Ddynod” as a common (pt. i, p. 118).

In a letter written to Bp. Lyttelton, of Carlisle, by the Rev. G. Griffiths, Rector of Llany Cil, and dated March 14, 1744–5 (*A Catalogue of MSS. relating to Wales in the British Museum* [Ed. Owen], pt. iv, p. 839) the following account of the camp appears:—“Next day I went to a place called Caer yr Ddynod by the inhabitants, but according to my own notion it should be more properly be called Caer y Druinod. This place is about 2 miles from the church, where I found several circles, but green paths leading to them. Here is a small intrenchment where inhabitans [*sic*] said a gyant lived many hundred years ago . . .”

* In the *Inventory* of Denbighshire Ancient Monuments (No. 363, p. 107) the entrance is mistakenly placed at the s.w. corner.

The following notice of the *Caer* appears in Lewis's *Topographical Dictionary*, 1842² (s.v. Llanvihangel Glyn Myvyr) :—"On the bank of the Alwen in the upper part of the parish are the remains of a very ancient circular fortification, called *Caer-ddynod* or the 'Conspicuous or distinguished fort,' occupying a considerable eminence."

In the *Brython* for 1861, vol. iv, p. 432, a contributor from the locality, namely, John Davies (Taliesin Hiraethog), Creigiau'r Bleiddiau, writes [Translated from Welsh] : "The old foundations are clearly to be seen along one side of it ; and there are some living at present who got up part of its foundations on the other side. Between the old foundation and the level ground inside the walls there is a depression in the ground resembling a wide ditch, which proves clearly that the site is an old fort. At the south-eastern end are remains of the foundations of a large residence, containing several rooms, near which is the only entrance into the area inside the ramparts. Up to this entrance a road leads from the level ground near the river. The stones at the west end have fallen in a heap along the side of the hillock, while quantities of the stones of the other sides have been removed to make walls and to build the present farmhouse."

SUGGESTED IDENTIFICATION. Lhuyd, in his annotations contributed to Camden's *Britannia* in Gibson's edition (1695), expresses the view that this fort "agrees exactly with Tacitus' description of the camp of King Caractacus when he engaged Ostorius Scapula somewhere in this country of the Ordovices." It is extraordinary that Lhuyd or his correspondent* should arrive at such a conclusion, for this little hill-fort does not in the least degree answer to Tacitus' description of the British leader's stronghold, as given in the *Annals*, xii, 33, 34. Another fort in the parish is called by the name of *Caer Caradog*, that is, The Fort of Caratacus.

NAME. In Llewelyn ap Iorwerth's charter to the monks of Aberconwy (1198), the name appears as *Dinas Dindunaut*†.

Who the Dunod [Latin *Donatus*], after whom the *Caer* is called, was is uncertain. Three persons of the name are known to Welsh history. (1) One was the fourth son of Cunedda Wledig, after whom Dunodig in Carnarvonshire was named. (2) Another was a son of Pabo Post Prydyn, and a great warrior. (3) The third was the Abbot of Bangor-is-y-coed (Dinoot) at the time of the Conference between Augustine and the Welsh bishops about 600 A.D. (Bede, *Ecclesiastical History*, bk. ii, chap. 2.)

The name no doubt belongs to a much later date than the fort itself. We may compare *Caerhun* (*Caer Rhun*), the name of the Roman camp, *Conovium*.

Site visited in 1913 and several times subsequently.

* See *Ashmole MS.*, 1829, in Bodleian Library (p. 171 : letter by J. Lloyd, Ruthin).

† *Concessi etiam & confirmavi eisdem Llethwedkrynllwyn per hos scilicet terminos a Pwlle propinquiorei Taldinas Dindunaut contra Alwen . . . Hinc usque super blaen vallis qui descendit versus dinas dundunaut. Hinc per ejusdam vallis longitudinem usque ad supra dictum Pwlle justa ipsius dinas."*

CAMP: CAER CARADOG.

SITE. The camp, to which the above name—Caer Caradog—is given in the Ordnance maps, but which is known locally as Pen-y-mount, crowns the summit of a hill, 1,250 ft. high, about a mile S.E. of Cerrig-y-drudion, but in the parish of Llanfihangel Glyn Myfyr, and about $1\frac{3}{4}$ m. S.W. of the church. The hill—"Trum y Gaer" (*Parochialia* i, p. 118)—belongs to the Bwlch-y-beudy Estate (Main-waring), the tenant being the farmer of Tai-draw.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxii, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 1' 4-9''$; long. $3^{\circ} 32' 12-23''$.]

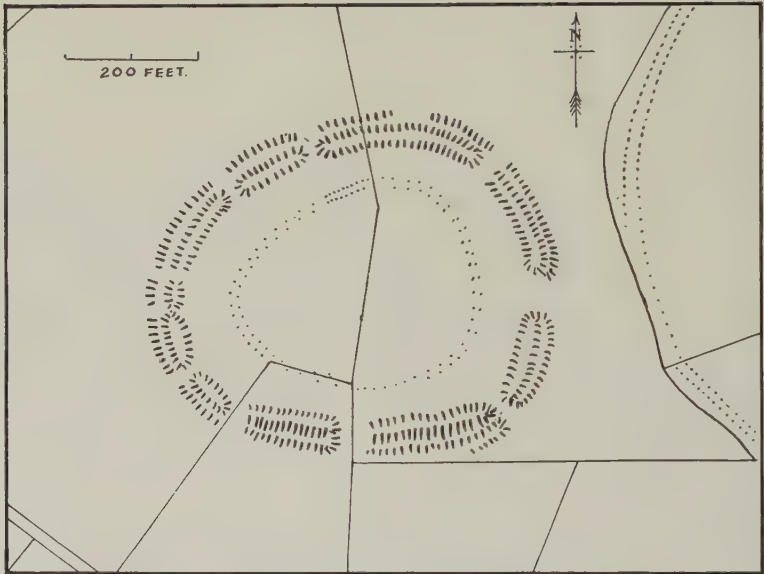


FIG. 69—CAER CARADOG CAMP.

DESCRIPTION. The fortifications of this camp, which are on the whole well preserved, follow the contour of the hill, and consist of a circular rampart with an external fosse, outside which, in places, is a heaped-up bank. There seems to have been also a discontinuous inner line of defence, distinct remains of which appear, especially on the N.W. side at a distance of 30 yds. or so from the main rampart. On the N.W. and N. the defences are strong, the distance from the bottom of the ditch to the top of the rampart being at some points 6 yds. There is no bank here on the outside of the fosse. At the N.E. corner the defences are weak. On the E. side they are again of considerable strength. The main entrance is on this side, where the ditch, which is cut in the rock, is discontinued for the space of 9 paces, and a gap is left in the rampart. On the S.E. the heaped-up bank on the outside of the fosse is very noticeable. There is a small gap in the vallum on this side which may have been a sally-port leading to a well at the bottom of the slope, distant about 25 paces. On the S. side the ground rises sharply from the fosse. At the S.W. corner is a wide breach in the rampart, some 8 paces across, which may have been an original entrance. On the W. the defences are well defined.

The rampart, which is over 700 paces in circumference and enclosing an area of about two acres, is composed of earth and shale. The camp is intersected by two modern walls.

The hill is by no means a strong position, there being no steep sides. On the E. the camp is actually dominated by higher ground (1,367 ft.).

PREVIOUS REFERENCES. 1. The Rev. John Lloyd, Warden of Ruthin, 1682–1713, Headmaster of Ruthin School, 1691–5, in an undated letter to Edward Lhuyd [*Ashmole MS.*, 1829, p. 171, at the Bodleian Library, Oxford], gives this description of the camp: "I have been last week at two or three of our caerau; y^t at Pen-y-Gaer fawr on Cader ddimel. It is a round trench and it seems to have been a deep one too, on y^e top of a hill comāding a prospect far abt, but especially towards Cerrig-y-dryidion on y^e one side and Edeyrnion on y^e other, 1 mile distant from y^e first and above 2 fr y^e latter. It is level on y^e top, and not a stone to be seen abt it; an arrowshot diameter or thereabts. The country people have phansied y^t it sounded hollow beneath at y^e trampling of many cattle driven on a full carreer over it, but y^t can hardly be for y^e entrance into it is a rock we^h appeared in another place. I supposed it was a fortification of a later date."

2. Edward Lhuyd, in Gibson's edition of Camden's *Britannia* (1695, p. 681), thus writes of the camp: "Pen y Gaer Vawr on Kader Dhinmael about a mile from Kerrig y Druidion but in Lhanvihangel parish, a circular ditch and rampire of stones of at least 100 paces diameter before mentioned."

3. In the *Parochialia* (i, 118) the only reference is this (under Lhanvihangel): "Tair Kaer gwedi henwrychod (*recte* 'gwedi henwrychod') [In Red: 3 camps]," that is "Three camps mentioned above." The three camps would be Caer Caradog, Caer Ddunod, and Caer Forwyn (?).

4. In a letter written by the Rev. George Griffiths, Rector of Llany Cil, Bala, to Bishop Lyttelton, and dated March 14, 1744–5, the following description of the Caer is found (*see* Ed. Owen's *Catalogue of MSS. relating to Wales in the British Museum*, pt. iv, p. 840):—"Next day to Pen y Gaer Vawr where is a vast intrenchment quite circu'ar, some part of it commanding the village, and a great track of ground about it. I measured the agger, which is in some places 8 to 9 yards in height: the foss about 2 yards deep, but much deeper in former years I venture to say. I enquired if any coins were found there: could not learn that there were any, though they had a notion that there were money under a large stone which I saw upon this Pen y Gaer, but whenever any one attempted to search, it thundered and lightened, and a great fall of rain to prevent them. . . . They told me there was a circle hard by, but I could not find it."

5. In a letter to the same Bishop Lyttelton (of Carlisle), dated Aug. 12, 1751, Mr. W. Price, of Rhiwlas, near Bala, writes with reference to Pen y Gaer [*see* p. 843]: "I have since been there, and could observe nothing but a vallum or kind of trench round the top

of the hill, and no stones or carnedd tho' was inform'd there had been some, and carry'd off towards neighbouring buildings. One stone pretty large was left which it is the common tradition if any pretends to move or dig about it generally happens to thunder and lightning and a storm. . . ."

6. Edward Pugh, in *Cambria Depicta* (Tours made 1803-13), p. 400, observes: "On a mountain walk of great extent called Hiraethog, one mile south of the village [Cerrig-y-drudion] are the remains of the citadel of Caractacus or Caradog, son of Bran ap Llyr."

7. Lewis, in his *Topographical Dictionary* (s.v. Llanvihangel Glyn-y-Myvyr), says: "Nearly opposite to Cerrig y Druidion, which is within three miles of the parish, are the ruins of another [fortification besides Caer-ddynod], called Pen y Gaer."

8. In *Arch. Camb.* for 1878, p. 172, J. Y. W. Lloyd writes: "There is a very remarkable and well defined British Camp in this parish called Caer Caradog. . . . It is a usual circular, covering about 3 acres of ground on the summit of a hillock which forms the western extremity . . . of an elongated hill called Y Drum."

Pennant and Fenton make no allusion to the Caer in their *Tours*. Visited in 1913, 1916, and 1921 (Oct. 26).

[*Inventory*, No. 364, p. 108.]

MAENHIR : PENYGAER.

This stands in the third field to the s.w. of Caer Caradog, called Cae'r Garreg (The Field of the Stone) and belonging to Penygaer Farm. It is about 5 ft. in height and leans a little.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxii, N.W. : lat. 53° 0' 55.5" ; long. 3° 32' 3.25".]

Seen Oct. 26, 1921.

STONE AXE-HAMMER : TIR-Y-BARWN.

PROVENANCE. Until 1920 this hammer was used to hold open the back door of Tir-y-Barwn farmhouse. In that year it was noticed by the Rev. D. Williams, of Bryn Awel, Bryn Saith Marchog, Derwen, who was allowed to take it home. Mr. Ed. Roberts, the tenant, stated that it had been on the premises for generations, but no particulars of its discovery were known. Presumably it was found on the farm. Tir-y-Barwn is 2½ m. in a straight line to the s.e. of Llanfihangel bridge.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxii, N.E.]

DESCRIPTION. The dimensions (maximum) are : length, 8½ in. ; breadth, 4¼ in. ; depth, 4 in. The perforation, which is nearer the butt than the pointed end, is at the lip 2 in. in diameter on one side, and 2 in. by 1¾ in. on the other. At the centre it is a little less. It was bored from both sides and does not exactly meet in the centre. The weight is 7 lb. 12 oz., and the colour is inclined to be dark. The

stone may be a dolerite. In several places there are small polished patches. These, it was suggested by the Rev. D. Williams, were due to the recent use to which the hammer was put, but as they occur all



FIG. 70—STONE AXE-HAMMER, TIR-Y-BARWN.

over the hammer they may indicate that it was originally polished. The "axe" end is somewhat blunt. The implement shows signs of considerable use (or abuse?).

PRESENT LOCATION. The hammer is in the possession of the Rev. D. Williams.

Seen Ap. 17, 1928.

BRONZE CELT : PENYGAER.

DISCOVERY. The discovery is thus described by the Rev. Elias Owen in *Arch. Camb.*, 1884, p. 320: "On a hill to the E. [accurately, $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.E.] of Cerrig-y-drudion is a fortification. . . . The Camp is surrounded by enclosures. On one of these was lately [1883 or 1884] found a bronze celt. . . . The Celt was picked up by a farmer on the "ffridd" that runs up to the fortification on its eastern side."

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxii, N.W.]

SUBSEQUENT HISTORY. After the discovery the finder, ignorant of the character of the implement, took it to Mr. Jones, a watchmaker at Cerrig-y-drudion, thinking the metal might be of use to him. Mr. Jones handed it to Mr. J. Bevan, then tutor to the sons of the Rector of Cerrig-y-drudion, now Vicar of The Slad, Stroud. The latter in his turn sent it to the Rev. Elias Owen, at the time Rector of Efenechtyd, near Ruthin, who, in a letter to Mr. Bevan acknowledging its receipt, said (as Mr. Bevan stated in a letter to the writer dated Dec. 26, 1918) that he proposed forwarding it to a friend who would deposit it in a certain museum. The Rev. Elias Owen (*loc. cit.*) says that Mr. Bevan transferred it to a member [i.e. of the Cambrian Archaeological Association] "who is about to deposit it in the Powysland Museum, Welshpool." This intention, apparently, was never carried out, for the celt is not at the museum. In John Evans's collection of bronze and stone implements presented by Sir A. J. Evans in 1927 to the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, is a bronze socketed celt [1927-2668] labelled "Denbigh, W. G. Smith, 1884." It is not improbable that this is the Penygaer celt, Mr. Worthington Smith (then of London, died 1917) in that case being the "friend" of the Rev. Elias Owen, and the "member" of the Cambrian Archaeological Association to whom the celt was transferred.

DESCRIPTION. The celt is thus described by Mr. Elias Owen: "Bronze celt of diminutive size, $4\frac{1}{6}$ inches long, and $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches broad at the bottom. It is of the usual shape with small holed handle [i.e. loop] on one side, and grooved on its broader sides." The following is the description of the Ashmolean celt from "Denbigh" in the Museum Catalogue:—"Axe, bronze, dark green patina; looped and socketed, large flaw-hole opposite loop and small one below collar, with 3 pendent ribs. L. .102 [4 in.], W. .048 [$1\frac{7}{8}$ in.], T. .034 [$1\frac{3}{8}$ in.]. (Photo p. 83).

Seen June 26, 1928.

LLANFWROG.

ALLEGED CAMP : PEN-Y-GAER.

SITE. The site known as Pen-y-Gaer is on Fforddilas Farm. The field bearing that name—formerly two fields, the dividing hedge having been levelled by a former occupier—is the fourth from the house on the E. side of the lane which leads in a southerly direction. Fforddilas is 2 m. W.S.W. of Ruthin.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xix, S.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 6' 8''$; long. $3^{\circ} 21' 16''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The field in question stands on an eminence which has two summits. It is 770 ft. above sea level, and commands a magnificent view of the Vale of Clwyd. The name suggests the existence of a camp, for which the site is very suitable, but at present not the slightest evidence of anything of the kind can be detected.

In the *Inventory* of Denbighshire Ancient Monuments (No. 37, p. 109) it is stated that "the slope to the east is covered with loose shale as though a bank had been removed." The upper part of the eminence, it is true, is fringed on the E. and S. sides by a discontinuous belt of shaly outcrop, but there are no indications whatsoever of an artificial embankment.

Site inspected Aug. 13, 1918.

LLANGADWALADR.

TUMULUS: TOMEN Y GWYDDEL.

SITE. Tomen y Gwyddel is situated close to the S.E. corner of a small plantation, about a mile N. of the hamlet of Tregeiriog, and a little under a mile W. of Cam Helyg Uchaf farmstead. A wire fence marking the boundary between the latter farm and Penlan Farm passes over the northern portion of the mound.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxix, S.W. : lat. $52^{\circ} 54' 37''$; long. $3^{\circ} 13' 36''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The "tomen" at present consists of the remains of a somewhat small tumulus, measuring about 30 paces in circumference and $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height, surrounded by a shallow ditch. In the centre is a small round hollow. Gorse, heather, and mountain grass grow on the site. Elevation : above contour line 1,500.

DESTRUCTION. The mound, so Mr. O. Thomas, of Cam Helyg Villa, Glyn Ceiriog, informed the writer in May, 1918, was dug into and practically levelled about 1854, by two men, Watkin Edwards and Robert Morris, employees of his father, J. Thomas, of Cam Helyg Uchaf, when fencing close by. They expected to find treasure. It is not reported that they turned up anything of interest.

NAME. "Tomen y Gwyddel" signifies "The Tumulus of the Goidel" (or Irishman), there being a local tradition that an Irishman was buried in it.

Visited Sept. 4, 1916, and July 8, 1926.

[*Inventory*, No. 381, p. 111 ; *Arch. Camb.*, 1882, p. 102.]

CAIRNS: PEN LLYN GLOYW.

I.

About 3 m. S.W. of Llansantffraid Glyn Ceiriog Church, 500 yds. S.E. from Pen Llyn Gloyw, and 300 yds. S.W. from Llyn Gloyw Bach, the words "Pile of Stones" appear in the 6 in. Ordnance Survey map just where the B. Mark 1531.8 occurs, and "Carn" in the original 1-in. map.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxix, S.W. : lat. $52^{\circ} 54' 36''$; long. $3^{\circ} 14' 4''$.]

At this spot there are noticeable at present unmistakable traces of a raised circle about 33 paces in diameter. This probably marks the periphery of a cairn. In the centre is erected a modern stone turret. Elevation : above contour line 1,500.

II.

About 650 yds. to the w.s.w. of No. 1 is the site of another cairn, marked on the original 1-in. Ordnance map. At present only the base of the cairn, covered with turf, 1 ft. high and 36 paces in circumference, is left. On the s.w. side is a small heap of stones.

The field is called Ffridd Uchaf and belongs to Pentre Uchaf Farm. Elevation : above contour line 1,250. In the *Inventory* (No. 381A, p. 111) No. 3 below was taken to be this cairn.

[Sheet xxxix, s.w. : lat. $52^{\circ} 54' 26''$; long. $3^{\circ} 14' 30''$.]

III.

Two hundred yards to the s.s.e. of No. 2, in the same field—Ffridd Uchaf—is a heap of stones, somewhat long and unshapely. Some at least of the stones have been gathered from the field in the course of cultivation, but whether all were it is impossible to say. If a cairn originally stood here it would be about 36 paces in circumference. The present height is about $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. No cairn, however, is marked on the old 1-in. Ordnance map at this spot. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

[Sheet xxxix, s.w. : lat. $52^{\circ} 54' 21''$; long. $3^{\circ} 14' 25''$.]

IV.

Some 500 yds. s. of No. 3, in a field belonging to Hafod Adams, is a small round pile of stones, about 15 paces in circumference and 1 ft. in height. The stones are fairly large. It is quite possible that they were collected from the field in modern times. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

[Sheet xlii, n.w. : lat. $52^{\circ} 54' 7''$; long. $3^{\circ} 14' 18''$.]

Seen May 2, 1928.

CAIRN : BRYN DU.

SITE. The remains of this cairn are to be seen about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. s.w. of Hen Hafod farmstead and 60 yds. or so n. of Ffordd y Saeson (Saxons' Road), as an old trackway which crosses this upland (Bryn Du) is called. The land belongs to Charles Storey, Esq., of Plas Nantyr, and is rented by the occupier of Hen Hafod.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxix, s.w. : lat. $52^{\circ} 54' 57''$; long. $3^{\circ} 15' 11''$.]

DESCRIPTION. At present little more than the base of the cairn is left, the rest having been carried away to build the walls of adjoining fields. A few large stones remain. These may have formed parts of one or more cistfeini. The cairn measures about 76 paces in circumference. The present height is about 2 ft. Heather grows on the site. Elevation : above contour line 1,500.

NAME. The name by which the cairn was formerly known is "Carnedd Rhys Goch." This Rhys Goch is said to have been Rhys

Goch Glyndwrdu, the son of Cynvrig Goch, "a poet who flourished from about 1,400 to 1,430. He was instructed by Iolo Goch, who was his father's brother. Some of his compositions are preserved in manuscript" (Williams, *Eminent Welshmen*, p. 443). It has been stated that Huw Morris (Eos Ceiriog), the poet of Pont-y-meibion (1622-1709), was a direct descendant of Rhys Goch.

CROES GARREG RHYS GOCH. Ninety paces or so to the N.N.W. of the cairn, now incorporated in the fence of a small plantation, is a large standing stone, about $4\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height, which bears the name of Croes Garreg Rhys Goch (Rhys Goch's Stone Cross).

Seen May 1, 1928.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1882, p. 102; *Inventory*, No. 387, p. 112; *MS. History of Tregeiriog*, by Jephunneh Owen.]

BRONZE AGE INTERMENT: TREGEIRIOG.

DISCOVERY. In April, 1867, in the course of clearing soil from the yard of Bryn Hyfryd, Tregeiriog, Charles Downs, formerly of Penrhewl, came upon a number of slab-stones—four it would seem—forming a cist. The stones, which measured about $2\frac{1}{2}$ or 3 ft. by 2 ft., lay over a yard below the surface. When they were removed a quantity of ashes (charcoal) and broken bones—incinerated—was brought to view. The stones and surrounding soil bore abundant evidence of having been subjected to fire.

Urn. Under the ashes and calcined bones was an earthenware urn of *terra cotta* colour, which was broken in three or four pieces in the attempt to lift it up. Much of the contents was thereby spilled. The vessel is said to have been about 9 in. deep and 18 in. across (around?) the mouth. The walls, which were nearly an inch in thickness, had been coarsely made.

Gallery. To the south of the cist and leading thereto was a gallery, or covered passage, formed of stones, resembling a gutter. This was full of ashes.

SITE. Bryn Hyfryd is just to the w. of Tyn-y-celyn, on the right-hand side of the road leading to Llanarmon D. Ceiriog. The cist was situated about a yard from the road, and quite near the spot where the stone implement described below (p. 242) was discovered ten years previously. At present no traces are noticeable.

AUTHORITY. The above account is based on particulars—evidently inexact—furnished in the MS. *Llyfr* (Book of) *Tregeiriog* by Jephunneh Owen (died about 1910), kindly lent to the writer in 1917 by Mr. J. Jones, then of Pont-y-meibion, Glyn.

Site visited in May, 1918.

MOUND: SGWENNANT.

SITE. This stands about midway between Llangadwaladr Church and Sgwennant farmhouse in a field called Cae Castell, to the s. of the road, about 35 paces from the latter.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xlii, s.w. : lat. 52° 51' 54" ; long. 3° 12' 12".]

DESCRIPTION. The mound is oval in shape, measuring about 110 paces round, 33 long, and 10 to 15 ft. high. Its long axis lies N.W. and S.E. It is composed of shaly soil. An oak tree grows on its S. slope. There is not sufficient reason to think that it is artificial.

FOLK LORE. The name by which the mound is known is " Bryn y Meibion " (The Hill of the Sons or Youths), there being a tradition locally to the effect that two strange boys were once upon a time found on it, who were taken and reared by the family then residing at Sgwennant.

AUTHORITY: Mr. J. G. Jones, Rhiwlas Schoolhouse.

Visited Nov. 23, 1923.

[*Inventory*, No. 388, p. 112.]

STONE HAMMER : TREGEIRIOG.

DISCOVERY. In the year 1857, the late John Edwards (died 1871), of Tyn-y-celyn, Tregeiriog, unearthed a stone implement while removing some soil in order to enlarge the front garden. It was found a yard or so from the main road immediately opposite the front door. Tyn-y-celyn is a cottage near the Llanarmon end of the hamlet of Tregeiriog on the N. side of the road.

DESCRIPTION. The implement was apparently a hammer. One end was worked into a sharp point, and near the butt end was a hole for a handle. It is stated that it was formed of flint-stone.

PRESENT LOCATION. Enquiries made locally have failed to elicit any information as to the present whereabouts of the implement.

AUTHORITY. The above particulars were obtained from a MS. History of Tregeiriog by Jephunneh Owen.

BRONZE PALSTAVE : HEN HAFOD.

DISCOVERY. About the year 1893 a bronze celt was discovered by Mr. J. H. Williams, now of Tyddyn Bychan, Nantyr, while ploughing a field called Cae Rhedyn on Henhafod Farm, Nantyr, where the finder then lived. The celt was found under a large stone. Hen Hafod is nearly 2½ m. S.S.W. of Glyn Ceiriog and about 300 yds. S. of the road leading to Plas Nantyr. Cae Rhedyn is to the E. of the farmstead.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxix, s.w. : lat. 52° 55' 25" ; long. 3° 14' 30" (approximate).]

DESCRIPTION. The celt is flanged, looped, and ribbed. Its measurements are : length, 6¾ in. ; width of cutting edge, 1½ in. Weight, 18 oz.

PRESENT LOCATION. The implement was presented to the Ceiriog Memorial Institute, Glyn Ceiriog, in April, 1925, by Mr. H. Pritchard

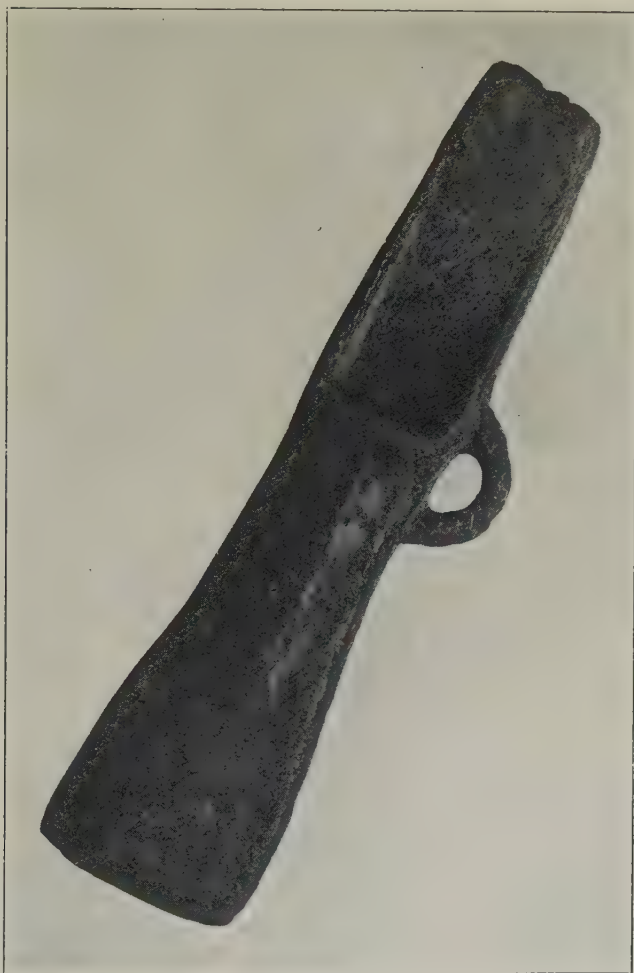


FIG. 71—BRONZE PALSTAVE, HEN HAFOD.

Williams, son of Mr. D. P. Williams, Hen Hafod, brother of the finder, from whom the above particulars were obtained, June 18, 1918.

Seen May 7, 1920.

SPINDLE WHORL: TOMEN Y GWYDDEL.

DISCOVERY. This was discovered in 1922 or thereabouts by Mr. E. R. Lloyd, son of Mr. M. E. Lloyd, of Hafod y Garreg, Pandy, Glyn Ceiriog, while poking into Tomen y Gwyddel [q.v.]. It lay close to the surface of the tumulus.

DESCRIPTION. The whorl is made of a soft, light-grey stone, and measures $1\frac{3}{8}$ in. across and $\frac{1}{4}$ in. deep. The perforation is not quite round and straight.

PRESENT LOCATION. Mr. E. R. Lloyd, on May 12, 1925, presented the whorl to the writer, who has since deposited the same in Ceiriog Memorial Institute, Glyn Ceiriog (May, 1928).

LLANGEDWYN.

SMALL CAMP, OR POST : YR ALLT.

SITE. The above is situated on a wooded eminence, named in the 6-in. Ordnance map "Yr Allt," which is a little over $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the E. of Llangedwyn Church, in the angle formed by the roads leading respectively to Llansilin and Llanyblodwel.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xlv, s.w. : lat. $52^{\circ} 48' 30''$; long. $3^{\circ} 11' 23''$.]

DESCRIPTION. Encircling the plateau which crowns the eminence in question is a low bank and ditch, enclosing an area about $\frac{1}{2}$ acre. Leading up the slope from the E. and entering the enclosure on the W. side is a well-made track. In the field adjacent, on the E. side, where approach is easy, distinct traces of an outer rampart are noticeable. There are other embankments on the W. slope of the eminence; also ditches in various places, cut, some of them, in the rock, which is of a shaly nature. Owing to the site being covered with trees and shrubs, the tracing of the different earthworks is somewhat difficult. At the S. extremity of the enclosure is a small mound about 11 paces across.

PURPOSE. Though the site is by no means a strong one, it is hard to avoid the conclusion that some at least of the embankments just described were originally constructed for defensive purposes. At a later period, though no evidence is forthcoming, the site may have been adapted to serve as a pleasance.

REFERENCE. The following reference to the site occurs in the *Parochialia* (Ed. Lhuyd), pt. iii, p. 52 :—"Towards y^e lower end [of Llangedwyn parish] eastwards there is a Bank called Bron yr Arthro [*recté* Athro] where likewise [as well as on Bryn Dinas] there hath been a fort with 2 trenches."

NAME. The name "Bron yr Athro" is not now in use, but the writer has been assured on unimpeachable authority that it was formerly applied to the eminence in question. Replying to an inquiry, Mr. R. W. Jones, Cil-bach, the Parish Clerk of Llangedwyn, wrote in November, 1921 : "Bron yr Athro is the bank opposite the Green Inn, on the right hand in going up the road to Llansilin."

With regard to the name, Ed. Lhuyd or his correspondent writes in the *Parochialia* (iii, 52) : "Within the wall of the South side of the Chancell [of the Church] there lyes the monument of a priest in stone who is thought to have founded the Chancell, there is no superscription to know his name, but he is reputed to be Athro Griffiths of whom Bron yr Athro [The Bank of the Teacher] taketh its name." The

effigy remains in the chancel of the present church (re-built in 1869). "Yr Athro" was probably an incumbent of the parish in the 15th century (see Thomas's *St. Asaph*, ii, 236-238).

Visited Nov. 1, 1918, and Oct. 27, 1921.

MOUND : GREEN INN.

SITE. This mound is 350 yds. to the S.E. of the inn known as "The Green," to which the field it stands in belongs, and between $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ m. E.S.E. of Llangedwyn Church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xlv, s.w. : lat. $52^{\circ} 48' 21''$; long. $3^{\circ} 11' 24''$.]

DESCRIPTION. It is oval in shape, being about 165 paces in circumference, and 15 to 20 ft. in height. It is covered with turf. There is no reason to believe that it is artificial.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. The Rev. H. Longueville Jones, in his list of Denbighshire Tumuli, etc., in *Arch. Camb.* for 1855, p. 268, thus refers to the mound : "*Bryn y Gwaliau* ; Mound, one mile east from Llangedwyn, on the Welsh side of the Tanat, guarding a ford."

Seen Nov. 8, 1922, and Nov. 20, 1923.

SPINDLE WHORL : BANHADLE.

A spindle whorl was picked up in 1923 by Mr. Davies, Banhadle, near Pentrefelin, on Stryd y Planciau, on his farm. It measures $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter and $\frac{1}{8}$ in. in thickness.

It was in the possession of Mr. Edward Evans, J.P., Llanrhaiadr, until his death in 1926.

LLANGERNYW.

DESTROYED TUMULUS : HENDRE DDU.

REFERENCE. In a note at the bottom of page 268 of *Ancient and Modern Denbigh* (1856), the author, the late Mr. John Williams (Glanmor), writes : "On the South of that village [Llangernyw] at a place called Hendre-ddu, until lately stood a tumulus, in opening which several tombs, *cistfeini*, sepulchral urns, and fragments of Roman pottery were discovered."

SITE. The late Robert Hughes (Glan Collen), a native of the parish, in 1913, when he was 90 years of age, informed the writer that the tumulus stood near Tyn-y-caeau Bach (now pulled down), which was situated about 600 yds. to the N. of the farmstead of Hendre-ddu. The writer, who made a careful inspection, after various inquiries, of this and other parts of the farm land on Jan. 31, 1928, failed to detect any indication. In the *Inventory* (No. 403, p. 115) a site about 300 yds. N.N.E. of the house is suggested, but no trace of a tumulus exists at the spot.

ALLEGED TUMULUS: NEAR LLANDDEWI VICARAGE.

Some 500 yds. to the E. of Llanddewi Church, which is 2 m. s.s.w. of Llangernyw village, on the Llanrwst road, is a field called Bryn Beddau (Hill of the Graves). Just below it, in the direction of the main road, is another field bearing the name of Dol Bryn Beddau, i.e. the Meadow of Bryn Beddau. In the latter—Dol Bryn Beddau—on the slope above the stream called Afon Dyffryn Gall is a small mound, which is described in the Denbighshire *Inventory* of Ancient Monuments (No. 395, p. 113) as sepulchral.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xi, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 10' 8''$; long. $3^{\circ} 41' 51''$.]

A close inspection of the mound, which is about 52 paces around at the base, reveals it to be partly natural and partly formed by the making of a cart-track up the slope from the lower part of the field. Other considerations which militate against the supposition of its being a barrow are : (1) its shape, which is somewhat irregular, (2) its position on a sharp incline near the bottom of a valley.

In the *Inventory* (l.c.) it is stated : " The name ' Dol beddau,' ' the dale of the graves,' is still in use, but no tradition attaches to the mound." The proper name of the field, however, is " Dol Bryn-beddau,"* as stated above. On " Bryn-beddau," where one might expect to find remains of graves, no signs of anything of the kind can be detected.

Visited May, 1913, and subsequently.

EARTHWORK: NEAR PANT Y RHEDYN.

SITE. The earthwork in question is situate in a moor called " Mynydd," belonging to Nantyrwrach Bach. It is some 300 yds. or so to the w. of Pant y Rhedyn House, and about $2\frac{1}{4}$ m. w.s.w. of Llangernyw village.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xi, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 10' 51''$; long. $3^{\circ} 43' 59''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The earthwork consists of a crescent-shaped embankment with an outside fosse, the extremities of which abut on the fence of the field that lies to the E. The fosse is about 98 paces around, and the embankment 6 to 7 ft. high from the bottom of the fosse. The distance between the two extremities is 74 paces. About the middle of the crescent a cart-track, about 4 yds. wide, has been made through the embankment. Whether the bank and ditch were originally continued right round it is impossible to say. There is at present no trace of them in the field to the E.

It is difficult to assign a date or purpose to this earthwork. Seen Aug. 1, 1923.

[*Inventory*, No. 406, p. 115.]

PILLAR STONES: CHURCHYARD.

SITE. The stones in question are situated in the churchyard, on the s. side of the church, quite close to the edifice.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xii, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 11' 0\cdot5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 41' 3''$.]

* So in *Tithe Apportionment and Parish Map* of Llangernyw.

DESCRIPTION. They consist of two upright or pillar stones, and two boulders.

1. *Pillar Stones.* One of these measures 52 in. in height and 15 by 21 in. in thickness at the base. The dimensions of the other are : height, 51 in., thickness at the base, 16 by 14 in. The distance between is 9 ft. 4 in. There are rudely-cut crosses on them.

2. *Boulders.* These are 20 yds. away, and are deeply sunk in the ground. In the space between them, which is about 3 yds., is an altar tomb bearing the date 1665. The stones look as if they had been set here by man. With reference to these latter the late Rev. Elias Owen, in his work, entitled *Old Stone Crosses of the Vale of Clwyd* (pp. 115-123), writes : " They . . . resemble the stones which form the boundaries of the circular enclosures of the *cist feini* still found on the hills of Carnarvonshire, and other places, and marking the graves of the ancient dead."

Seen May, 1913, and subsequently.

MOUND : HENDRE ISAF.

SITE. This mound, known as " Y Domen," stands about a mile N. of the village of Llangernyw, quite near the farmstead of Hendre Isaf, in the field between the latter and the main road.

[6 in. O.S. sheet vii, s.w. : lat. 53° 12' 15" ; long. 3° 41' 8".]

DESCRIPTION. The mound measures about 160 paces around the base and is about 30 paces from the circumference to the summit. There are distinct traces of a moat encircling it. It is covered with turf, and gorse grows on it. A good view, up and down the valley, is obtained from the top.

PURPOSE. This is not a prehistoric burial mound—tumulus, but a somewhat small " castle mount," of a date subsequent to the Norman Conquest. Its history, however, is totally unknown. There is a ford—Rhyd Pentre—over the River Elwy, about 220 yds. to the E.

Inspected in 1912 and subsequently.

[*Inventory*, No. 404, p. 115.]

STONE CELT : Y WENLLI.

DISCOVERY. This implement was found about the year 1910 by Mr. Robert Davies, now of Foel Fawr, Llanddewi, but then of Y Wenlli, while ploughing Cae Canol, the third field to the W. of the house, which abuts on an old road. The axe was turned up in the middle of the field. Y Wenlli is a little under 2½ m. W.S.W. of Llangernyw.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xi, N.E. : lat. 53° 10' 32" ; long. 3° 34' 6".]

DESCRIPTION. The celt, which is polished all over, measures $6\frac{3}{4}$ in. long and 3 in. across the broadest part, which is near the cutting edge. Its weight is $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. The cutting edge has been slightly

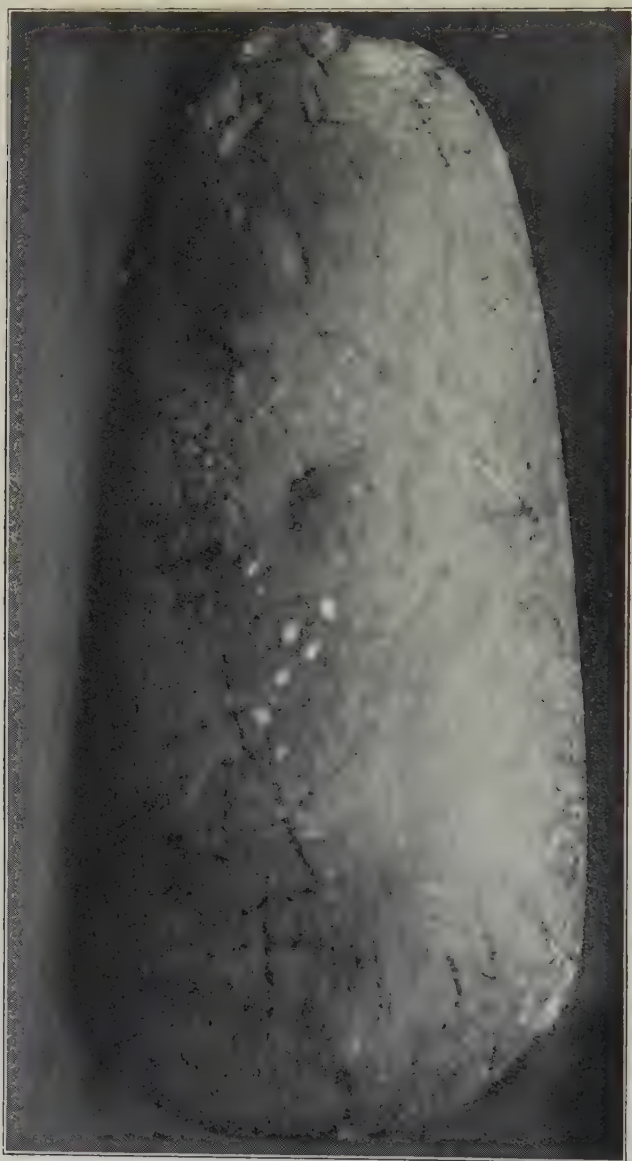


FIG. 72—STONE AXE, Y WENLLI.

chipped in four or five places and the butt end in one place. The implement is made from a piece of igneous rock, fine in grain and light grey in colour—probably Graig Lwyd rock, Penmaenmawr.

PRESENT LOCATION. It remains in the possession of the finder. First seen March 15, 1926.

STONE CELTS: HAFOD FAWR.

DISCOVERY. 1. One was found about the year 1895 by Mr. W. Williams, now of Rhiwiau, Llansannan, but then living at Hafod Fawr, which is about 3 m. s.w. of Llangernyw village, in ploughing a field called Buarthau Bach. The implement was picked up near the bottom of the field, which is 650 yds. or so E. of the house, on the further side of the brook that runs down to Afon Dyffryn Gall.

2. The second was discovered about two years later by a man servant while ploughing the field known as Molwynog Uchaf, which is immediately to the s. of Buarthau Bach.

DESCRIPTION. 1. This was a polished flint celt, measuring about 7 in. long and 4 in. across the cutting edge; it was in perfect condition.

2. The other axe, which was also of flint stone, was shorter and of rougher construction.

PRESENT LOCATION. The implements were for a time kept in the outbuildings at Hafod Fawr. Eventually they disappeared.

Sites visited Ap. 21, 1925. Information obtained from Mr. W. Williams, at Rhiwiau, March 17, 1925.

STONE HAMMERS: PLAS ISAF.

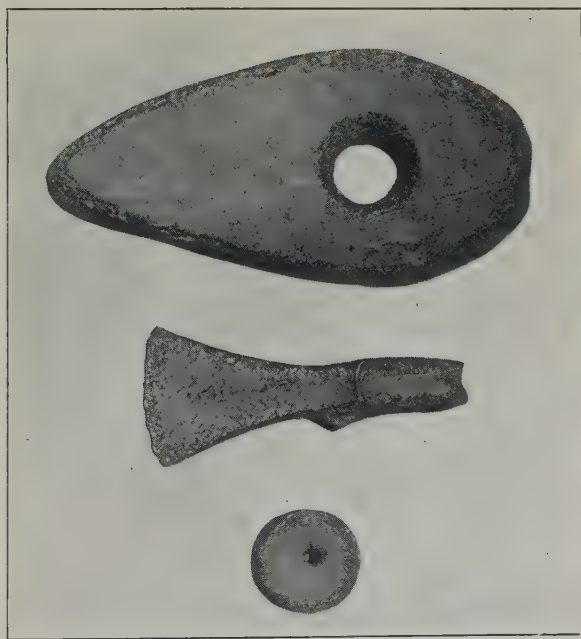


FIG. 73—1. STONE AXE-HAMMER, PLAS ISAF. 2. BRONZE PALSTAVE, BODGYNWCH. 3. SPINDLE WHORL, PLAS ONN ($\frac{1}{3}$).

I (AXE-HAMMER).

PRESENT LOCATION. On March 24, 1925, the writer was informed by Mr. W. H. Jones, of Sirior Hir, Abergele, that there used to be in an outbuilding at Plas Isaf, Llangernyw, a farm which belonged to

him, and which he occupied between 1909 and 1920, a stone hammer, the history of which he did not know. In order, if possible, to secure the implement which Mr. Jones feared was lost, the writer paid a visit to Plas Isaf on April 21, 1925. Having made inquiries of the tenant's wife, who had no knowledge of it, he came upon it, after some search, lying on the ground outside one of the farm buildings. With her permission he took possession of it. In due course it will be deposited in the St. Asaph Cathedral Museum.

DISCOVERY. Particulars respecting the place and circumstances of the discovery of the hammer were unknown to the writer until Sept. 13, 1928, when, on a visit to Llansannan, he interviewed Mr. Meredith Owen, of Ty Iorwerth, who had been brought up at Plas Isaf, where he lived till 1909, when he left for Australia. The implement had been discovered by him about the year 1892 in a heap of quarry debris in a fence which he was repairing on the farm. The exact spot was at the N.W. corner of a large field to the N.W. of the farmstead, some 650 yds. from the latter. Plas Isaf is $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. of the village.

[6 in. O.S. sheet vii, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 13' 41''$; long. $3^{\circ} 39' 16''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The hammer is made of greenstone (augite-dolerite), a stone which, according to Mr. Howell Williams, M.Sc., of Liverpool University, is plentiful in East Carnarvonshire. The dimensions are : length, $8\frac{1}{4}$ in. ; width, 4 in. ; depth, $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. Weight, 5 lbs. It is of the axe-hammer variety. The perforation, which is near the butt end, is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter on the outsides, but a little less in the middle.

II.

About the same time and in the same place Mr. Owen discovered another much smaller stone hammer, oval in shape and about 4 in. long. This he placed in an outbuilding, where it was broken. Eventually it was lost sight of.

STONE CHISEL : FOEL FAWR.

DISCOVERY. This was discovered about the year 1885 by Mr. Robert Davies, of Foel Fawr, as he was ploughing a field, belonging to the farm (Foel Fawr), called Ffridd Uchaf, about 450 yds. to the N.N.W. of the house. It was picked up in the middle of the field where the rock is near the surface. Foel Fawr is $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. of Llangernyw village. [6 in. O.S. sheet xi, N.E.]

SUBSEQUENT HISTORY. For two or three years the implement was kept on the window sill of the stable. One day it disappeared and could not be traced.

DESCRIPTION. The implement was about 14 in. in length and $2\frac{3}{4}$ in. across the cutting edge, from which it tapered a little towards the butt end, which measured about $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. in breadth. It was made, apparently, from a stone similar to, if not identical with, that of the stone celt discovered at Y Wenlli in the same parish.

Information obtained from finder, March 8, 1926.

PALSTAVE : BODGYNWCH.

DISCOVERY. This was found in 1923 by John Davies Wynne, of Bodgynwch, son of the tenant, on the surface of the ground in a small plantation about 80 yds. to the N. of the house. It had probably been laid bare by recent timber hauling.

[6 in. O.S. sheet vii, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 12' 56''$; long. $3^{\circ} 40' 18''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The palstave is very much corroded, the whole of the surface practically being covered with pits of various sizes and the loop blocked up. A small bit has been broken off the end of the tang. The flanges are fairly deep. On either side of the blade is a faint midrib, together with a shield-shaped figure in front of the stop-ridge. The present length is $5\frac{3}{4}$ in. (original length, probably about $6\frac{1}{4}$), breadth across cutting edge $2\frac{1}{2}$ in., across haft end $\frac{7}{8}$ in. The weight is $10\frac{3}{4}$ oz.

PRESENT LOCATION. The finder presented the implement to Mr. W. F. Barnwell, of the School House, Llangernyw, in whose possession it remains. It was lent to the writer in March, 1928.

QUERN : RHOS LAN.

PROVENANCE. This was found at Rhos Lan, a farm $\frac{2}{3}$ m. s.w. of the hamlet of Pandy Tudur, and $\frac{1}{2}$ m. due s. of Glan-rhyd, on the main road from Llangernyw to Llanrwst.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xi, s.e.]

DESCRIPTION. The stone of which the quern is formed is a kind of conglomerate of a grayish colour. An upper stone, it measures 17 in. in diameter and about $2\frac{3}{4}$ in. in depth. It has a small perforation, about $\frac{5}{8}$ in. in diameter, in the centre.

PRESENT LOCATION. It was bought from Mr. Joseph Davies, the tenant, by the Rev. Thomas Roberts, R.N., then of Llanrwst, who, in 1915, presented it to the Bangor University College Museum.

Seen in 1913.

[*Inventory*, No. 523, p. 147.]

SPINDLE WHORLS : BODYWRACH.

Several spindle whorls were found from time to time on the farm of Bodywrach, which is about $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. s.s.w. of Llanddewi Church, by the late tenant, Mr. Hugh Hughes, who removed about 1906 to Y Fedw, Nant-y-rhiw, Llanrwst. They were picked up in Cae Brwyn, the field behind the stackyard, Cefn Bodywrach Uchaf, and other fields to the w. of the house. One whorl was given by Mr. Hughes in 1917 to the Rev. T. Roberts, R.N., then of Rhiwlas, Llanrwst. In 1919 two were presented to the writer.

Mr. Hughes interviewed by the writer, June 12, 1918.

LLANGOLLEN URBAN.**FORT : DINAS BRAN.**

SITE. This well-known site is about $\frac{3}{4}$ m. to the N.E. of Llangollen, on the top of an isolated conical hill 1,000 ft. above sea level.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiv, S.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 58' 42''$; long. $3^{\circ} 9' 30''$.]

CHARACTER OF REMAINS. The remains on the summit of this strong natural position consist, first, of the ruins of a mediaeval stone castle with a deep moat on the s. and e. sides, hewn out of the solid rock, believed to have been constructed by Gruffydd ap Madog ap Gruffydd Maelor in 1270, and, secondly, of earthworks carried round the summit of the hill, enclosing an oval-shaped area measuring,

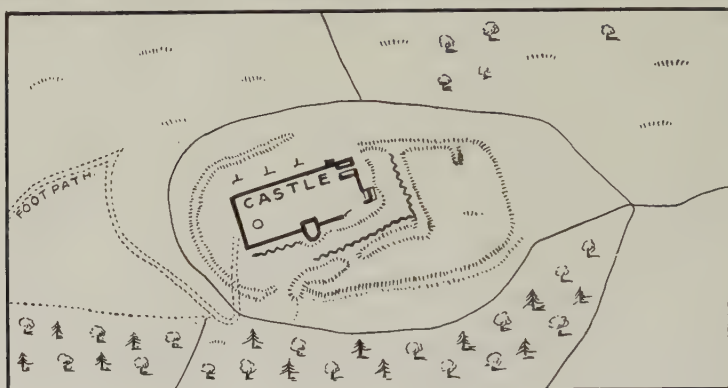


FIG. 74—DINAS BRAN CAMP.

roughly speaking, between 3 and 4 acres. These earthworks, there can be no doubt, belong to a much earlier period than the stone castle. They are, it may be confidently affirmed, the remains of the defences of a prehistoric fort.

DESCRIPTION OF EARTHWORKS. Starting a perambulation of the early defences at the s.w. corner, one finds that the present path which leads to the summit of the hill cuts through the same. To the w. the defences are well defined, there being a ditch on the inside of the rampart cut in the rock. Just before the n.w. corner is reached the rampart assumes greater proportions. On the n.w. side, however, it is considerably weaker. The n. side of the hill being very precipitous, there was little need of artificial protection, and we only notice traces here and there. These disappear altogether further on. A little to the e. of the n.e. corner of the stone castle the rampart starts again on a higher level, and can be distinctly traced all along the n. side. On the e. the defences are again faint, but on this side there is a sharp drop of 8 or 10 yds. from the interior level of the camp. Near the s.e. corner is a gap in the defences, which may be modern. On the s.e. side is a strong embankment with a deep fosse outside, beyond which is another embankment or counterscarp. This latter has been

tampered with by the making of a fence. On the s. side the outer bank is weak, while the inner one is fairly strong. The main entrance in the early fort seems to have been at the w. extremity of the s. side, where the rampart may be seen curving inwards. Unfortunately at this point the mediaeval defences trench upon the prehistoric, with the result that the details of the entrance are to a great extent obscured. A track leads up from a s.w. direction to this entrance.

NAME. The present form of the name of the site, viz. Castell Dinas Bran, seems to confirm our contention as to the earlier date of the outer defences, for it signifies "The Castle of Bran's Stronghold," Dinas Bran being apparently the name of the site before Gruffydd ap Madog's Castle was constructed.

The word Bran here, of course, represents the name of a person and not that of a bird—the crow—as has been erroneously supposed. The reference may be to Bran Fendigaid (Bran the Blessed), a mythical personage who figures prominently in the Mabinogi of Branwen, the daughter of Llyr.

An older form of Dinas Bran apparently was Dinbren, which survives in the name of the township in which the fort lies, and in the name of a hall and two farms.

Bran is connected with other sites in the County of Denbigh, and elsewhere, e.g. Gorsedd Bran and Llyn Bran in the Hiraethog hills.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES. The mediaeval castle is referred to by all writers who deal with the district, for example *Leland* (L. T. Smith, 1906, p. 90) ; *Lhuyd* (Parochialia ii, 41) ; *Newbery and Carnan* (Description of England and Wales, 1769, vol. iii, p. 75) ; *Pennant* (Tours, i, pp. 359, 361) ; *Gough* (Edition of Camden's Britannia, 1789, vol. ii, p. 276) ; *Rev. J. Evans* (Topographical and Historical Description of the Counties of Carnarvon and Denbigh, 1810, pp. 558, 559) ; *Bingley* (North Wales, 1814², pp. 425–6) ; *Ed. Pugh* (Cambria Depicta, 1816, p. 310) ; *Samuel Lewis* (Topo. Dict., 1842) ; *Simpson* (Some account of Llangollen, 1827, pp. 45 ff.) ; *Bradley* (Highways and Byways in N. Wales, 1898, pp. 46–48). But *Fenton* (Tours, 1808, edited by Canon Fisher, 1917, p. 135) and *H. Longueville Jones* (Arch. Camb., 1855, p. 262) are the only authors known to the writer* who assign to the outer defences a date earlier than to the rest of the remains. Fenton's words are : "The Castle is evidently built within an old British Encampment, and one of the oldest, with an agger following the shape of the conical and insulated Hill, on which it was placed. The castle occupies a rocky foundation near the western side of the ancient entrenchment, there being a large space between its eastern extremity and the old agger skirting the eastern summit of the hill." Longueville Jones refers to Castell Dinas Bran as "site of ancient post, bearing a mediaeval castle."

The Commissioners, in their *Inventory* of the Denbighshire Ancient Monuments (1914), while dealing with the Mediaeval Castle (No. 429, p. 120), make no mention of the earthworks encircling the summit.

Visited May 7 and Nov. 10, 1920.

*But compare Dr. J. E. Lloyd's *History of Wales*, p. 244.

BRONZE SOCKETED CELT: DINAS BRAN.

DISCOVERY. This celt was discovered in January, 1918, by Mr. Edward Evans, Brynarddun, Pontfadog, on Dinas Bran, in the soil, near the mouth of a rabbit hole, on the s. slope, about 150 yds. from the summit. Evans, who was engaged in timber-felling, came upon it in clearing away some undergrowth round the stump of a tree which he was about to cut down.

FIG. 75—SOCKETED CELT, DINAS BRAN ($\frac{1}{2}$).

DESCRIPTION. The celt is of the socketed variety, with a loop but no ribs. It measures $3\frac{1}{10}$ in. in length and 2 in. across the cutting edge, the socket being, at the mouth, 1 in. square. Unfortunately, the finder attempted to polish the implement and grind the edge.

PRESENT LOCATION. In 1925 Lord Howard de Walden bought the celt for his son, the Hon. John Scott Ellis, from the finder, and it is preserved at Chirk Castle.

Seen and photographed Nov., 1921.

BRONZE SOCKETED CELT: NEAR LLANGOLLEN.

PRESENT LOCATION. This celt is in the Geological Room of the Shrewsbury Museum (Case No. 1—Geological Record). On a small label gummed within the socket is written in faded ink:—"Celt found near Llangollen" The remainder is illegible; it may have been "1855," "1875," or "4 ft.," possibly followed by a tiny signature. Miss Chitty, of Yockleton Rectory, Shrewsbury, who brought it to the notice of the writer in Sept., 1926, says that there is "no record in the Donations Book, or memory of its existence among Shropshire archaeologists." She happened on it by an accident, and deciphered the label.

DESCRIPTION. The celt is socketed and looped, with three ribs on either side. The dimensions are: length, $3\frac{1}{8}$ in.; width, across

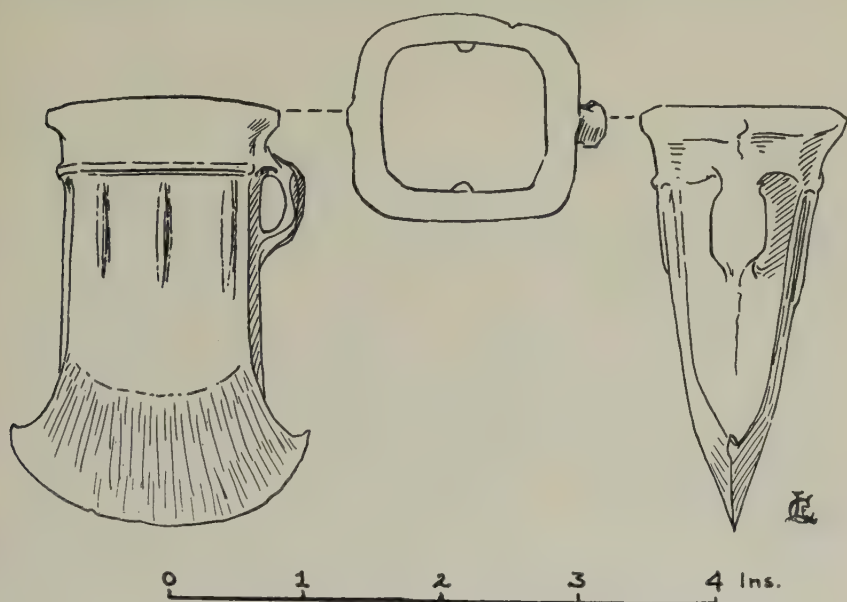


FIG. 76—BRONZE SOCKETED CELT, NEAR LLANGOLLEN.

Drawing by Miss L. F. Chitty.

cutting edge, $2\frac{1}{4}$ in., across the lip of the socket, $1\frac{3}{4}$ in.; thickness, $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. Inside the socket, in the centre on either side, is a small ridge or "runner."

Seen Feb. 18, 1927.

LLANGOLLEN RURAL.

REMAINS OF TUMULUS: BLAEN BACHE.

SITE. These remains are in the field, called Cae Pant, some 200 yds. to the N.N.W. of the house of Blaen Bache. The exact position in the field is 50 paces from the lane on the w. and 40 from that on the s.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxix, N.W.: lat. $52^{\circ} 57' 25''$; long. $3^{\circ} 11' 38''$.]

DESCRIPTION. Very little of the tumulus now remains, but its outline can be traced. The circumference is about 86 paces, and the height at the centre about 1 ft. Elevation: above contour line 1,000.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. It is marked on the original 1-in. Ordnance map, and probably is one of the "two carnau on the mountain 2 miles s.w. from Llangollen," mentioned by the late Rev. H. Longueville Jones in his list of Denbighshire Tumuli in *Arch. Camb.*, 1855, p. 262.

Seen May 7, 1923.

TUMULUS : BLAEN NANT.

SITE. This stands nearly a mile w.s.w. of Ffynnon Lâs (1 m. w.s.w. of Llangollen) in a field (moorland), bounded on s., and until recently also on n. and w., by plantations, and called Blaen Nant. It is about 140 paces from the n.w. corner of the field. Owner : Capt. W. Best, Y Feifod.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxix, n.w. : lat. $52^{\circ} 57' 20''$; long. $3^{\circ} 13' 6''$.]

DESCRIPTION. Circumference 63 paces and height 3 ft. It is composed mainly of soil and covered with turf and heather. A few stones protrude. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

Seen May 7, 1923.

TUMULUS : FFYNNON LAS.

SITE. The position of this tumulus is 100 yds. s. of the farmstead of Ffynnon Las, in a plantation, near the s.e. corner. Ffynnon Las is a mile and a quarter s.w. of Llangollen, across country. Owner : Capt. Best, Y Feifod.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxix, n.w. : lat. $52^{\circ} 57' 36''$; long. $3^{\circ} 11' 50''$.]

DESCRIPTION. It is 64 paces in circumference and 3 ft. in height. Its material is soil. A few stones protrude, one of which might be part of a cist. At the top there is a slight depression. About half-a-dozen trees grow on it. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. It is shown on the original 1-in. Ordnance sheet. The site was missed by the Inspecting Officer of the Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments, who states [*Inventory*, No. 416, p. 118] that "it has been removed, its position being defined by a low hillock in the field just south of a three-cornered plantation, at the junction of two roads," that is, a hundred and forty yards e. of the tumulus.

Seen May 7, 1923.

TUMULUS : WILDERNESS.

SITE. The position of this is 3 m. w.s.w. of Llangollen, in the corner of a wood right on the boundary line between Denbighshire and Merionethshire. Owner : Capt. W. Best, Y Feifod.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxix, n.w. : lat. $52^{\circ} 57' 3''$; long. $3^{\circ} 14' 10''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This tumulus, which measures about 70 paces in circumference and 3 ft. in height, is covered with trees and jungle. Elevation : above contour line 1,750.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. It is marked on the original 1-in. Ordnance sheet. In the *Inventory* (No. 418, p. 118), the statement is made that the "cairn once standing on this site . . . exists no longer and has left no remains" !

Seen May 7, 1923.

CAIRN : WILDERNESS.

SITE. This stands $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. w.s.w. of Ffynnon Las and $2\frac{3}{4}$ m. w.s.w. of Llangollen, on the N. bank of the stream, Nant y Bache, not far from its source. There is a wire fence and gate just to the w. Owner : Capt. W. Best, Y Feifod.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxix, N.W. : lat. $52^{\circ} 57' 12''$; long. $3^{\circ} 13' 51''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The circumference is about 54 paces and the height about $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. Like the surrounding ground, it is covered with heather. At some time or other a trench, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. wide, has been made to the centre on the s.s.e. side. This reveals the inside of the mound to be composed of stones. Elevation : above contour line 1,500.

Seen May 7, 1923.

TUMULUS : CEFN Y FEDW.

SITE. This stands in the centre of a field called Yr Orsedd, belonging to Cefn y Fedw Farm, a quarter of a mile to the s.e. of the house. To the N. of the field are a stream (Nant Cefn Fedw) and a plantation. Owner : J. C. Edwards, Esq., Trevor Hall.

[6 in. O.S. sheet, xxxiv, s.e. : lat. $52^{\circ} 59' 9''$; long. $3^{\circ} 6' 57''$.]

DESCRIPTION. Its dimensions are : circumference, 95 paces ; height, 4 ft. It is inclined to be oval in shape, the long axis being E. and W. ; stands on rising ground, and is under turf. Elevation : above contour line 800.

CAE GARNEDD.

The field to the w. of the above, viz. Yr Orsedd, bears the above name, but no traces of a cairn are to be seen therein.

Seen May 8, 1923.

TUMULI : EGLWYSEG MOUNTAIN.

I.

SITE. This stands close to the Eglwyseg rocks, about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. of Dinbren Uchaf farmstead, and 2 m. N.N.E. of Llangollen. A wire fence passes over it from W. to E. This part of the mountain is called " Rhos-pen-domen " in the Inclosure Award Map (1849).

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiv, N.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 59' 45''$; long. $3^{\circ} 9' 33''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The tumulus, which is composed of soil and covered with turf, is about 70 paces in circumference and 7 ft. in height. There are signs of its having been tampered with, especially on the W. side of the summit. A shallow depression was cut across the top for the wire fence referred to above. The stones of a circle are to be seen protruding here and there. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

EXCAVATION. A writer in *Byegones* (" Oswestry Advertiser "), Nov. 30, 1904, p. 443, who signed himself J.C. [the late James Clark, of Llangollen], says : " I have made many inquiries as to the finding

of relics on Dinas Bran, and all the information I have been able to obtain is from Dr. J. P. Drinkwater, who lives at the foot of the hill. He says that some years ago an old workman on the Dinbren Estate, in cutting holes for posts to make an iron fence, came across a funeral urn, with lamp and tears bottle. They were sent by Mr. Kenrick, then owner of the Dinbren Estate, to his house in Birmingham."



Photo. by Mr. J. R. Bruce.

FIG. 77—TUMULUS, EGLWYSEG ROCKS.

A short account of the digging into the tumulus is also given in a note in Mr. Kenrick's hand-writing, which his son, Sir George H. Kenrick, of Egbaston, discovered in September, 1920, in a small box containing (1) "a few fragments of an urn of unburnt clay—the inside being very black," (2) "a single vertebra, which may or may not be human," (3) "a broken rounded pebble which looks like flint." The note is as follows:—"October, 1879. Remains found in Tumulus on Eglwyseg Rocks. The remains were found in a circular chamber about 7 ft. deep and 2 ft. 6 in. wide, roughly lined on side with round stones. At the bottom was a jar about 12 [inches across the mouth ?] and 18 [inches] deep, something of this shape." [Sketch given.]

Sir George, who supplied the writer with the foregoing particulars, Sept. 13, 1920, added that a workman was employed by his father in erecting a fence and that the fence went over the tumulus in question. "The workman was supposed to have found other things in the chamber besides the urn," but they were not handed over to the Kenricks. Enquiries made locally have failed to elicit any further information respecting the digging into the barrow or the finds made at the time.

In January, 1928, Sir George Kenrick kindly sent the writer all that remained of the finds from the tumulus—a few fragments of

bones. These were in February submitted for examination to Sir Arthur Keith, who thus reported: "The handful of bones from Llangollen tumulus contains (1) fragments of the cremation of a human body, (2) part of the shoulder blade of an ox (unburnt) and fragments of ribs of sheep (unburnt)."

Visited May 4, 1920, Oct. 25, 1927.

[*Inventory*, No. 467, p. 115.]

II.

SITE. This is situated about 80 yds. to the E. of tumulus No. 1. [6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiv, N.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 59' 45''$; long. $3^{\circ} 9' 28''$.]

DESCRIPTION. A small tumulus, measuring 26 paces in circumference and $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. It is composed of soil and covered with turf, which is pitted with rabbit holes. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

III.

About 60 paces to the S.E. of No. 1 is another very small tumulus, 17 paces in circumference and 1 ft. high. It is composed of soil and covered with turf and bilberry bushes. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

[Lat. $52^{\circ} 59' 44.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 9' 31''$.]

Seen Oct. 25, 1927.

TUMULUS : EGLWYSEG MOUNTAIN.

SITE. The position of this is about half-way between Craig-y-moch and Cefn-y-Gader, that is, about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. of the former.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 1' 46''$; long. $3^{\circ} 8' 9''$.]

DESCRIPTION. It is composed of peaty soil, with a considerable admixture of stones in its lower part. A hole has been dug in the summit about 4 ft. across, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. deep. Circumference about 90 paces and height about 8 ft. Elevation : above contour line 1,500.

Reported by Mr. T. J. Ewart. Seen Sept. 27, 1928.

CAIRNS : EGLWYSEG MOUNTAIN.

I.

SITE. This is situated 2 m. N.N.E. of Llangollen, at the point where the wire fence which traverses the tumulus described above (p. 257), which is $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the W.S.W., turns in a S.E. direction.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiv, N.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 59' 54''$; long. $3^{\circ} 8' 54''$.]

DESCRIPTION. It was originally a large cairn measuring about 70 paces in circumference. It has been much disturbed, and the bulk of the stones have been carried away. Its present height is 3 or 4 ft. In the N.E. corner are the remains, in the shape of good-sized erect slabs of stone, of sepulchral cists. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

Visited May 4, 1920, and Oct. 25, 1927.

II.

SITE. This is situated nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the N.N.E. of No. 1, right on the boundary line of the parishes of Llangollen Rural and Penycae.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiv, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 0' 17''$; long. $3^{\circ} 8' 37''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The circumference measures about 50 paces and the height 3 ft. There is a biggish hole in the centre. Two heaps of stones have been raised at a recent date on the S. and E. parts of the cairn. It is nearly all covered with heather. Elevation : above contour line 1,500.

III.

SITE. This stands 500 yds. or so to the N.N.W. of No. 2, on the boundary line of the same parishes.

[Lat. $53^{\circ} 0' 31''$; long. $3^{\circ} 8' 14''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The circumference is about 42 paces and present height 3 ft. This likewise has been disturbed inside. A small pile of stones has been raised on the W. side. The cairn is partly covered with heather and bilberry bushes. Elevation : above contour line 1,500.

Seen June 24, 1924, and Nov. 2, 1927.

IV.

A little more than 1,000 yds. to the N.E. of No. 3 is a large heap of stones which is probably the remains of a demolished cairn. This, like Nos. 2 and 3, is on the boundary line of the parishes of Llangollen Rural and Penycae. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiv, N.E. : lat. $50^{\circ} 0' 54''$; long. $3^{\circ} 8' 9''$.]

[Some of the cairns just described are probably referred to on p. 134 of *Arch. Camb.* for 1865.]

CAIRN : CREIGIAU EGLWYSEG.

SITE. This is situated on a terrace some 170 yds. W. from the highest level of the Eglwyseg Rocks, and about $\frac{1}{3}$ m. N.E. of Dinbren Isaf farmstead.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiv, S.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 59' 22''$; long. $3^{\circ} 9' 33''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The circumference is 36 paces, and present height about 2 ft. Two kinds of stone enter into the composition of the cairn, viz. limestone (the bulk) and what is locally known as "whinstone" (granite). The height has been greatly reduced by the removal of stones. The remains of stone cists are visible. One, which is near the centre, measures 4 ft. long, 3 ft. wide, and 2 ft. high. Elevation $\star$ above contour line 1,000.

Seen March 7, 1928 (the writer was conducted to this by Mr. T. J. Ewart, Dinbren).

TUMULUS : CREIGIAU EGLWYSEG.

SITE. The position of this is about 350 yds. to the N.W. of Eglwyseg plantation and 200 yds. E.N.E. of the Cairn above Dinbren Isaf.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiv, S.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 59' 28''$; long. $3^{\circ} 9' 22''$.]

DESCRIPTION. It is made of soil, with which are mixed some stones and covered with turf. It has been badly disturbed, the soil removed having apparently been heaped up on the S. side. The circumference is 26 paces and present height $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

Seen March 6, 1928. (The writer was shown this by Mr. T. J. Ewart, Dinbren.)

TUMULI : EGLWYSEG MOUNTAIN.

I.

SITE. This is situated on the mountain a little over $\frac{1}{2}$ m. in a direct line E.S.E. of St. Mary's Mission Church. It is 50 paces E. from the precipice and 150 paces S. from an old quarry.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiv, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 0' 45''$; long. $3^{\circ} 9' 21''$.]

DESCRIPTION. A very small disturbed tumulus, it measures only 18 paces or so in circumference, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. It is composed of soil and covered with turf and heather. There are eight biggish stones loose at the centre. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

II.

Another small tumulus is to be seen near the rocks a little under $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. of No. 1. This is about 23 paces in circumference and 2 ft. in height. In one side is a big piece of rock. The mound, which is made of soil and covered with turf, has been disturbed and seven stones are exposed in the centre. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

III.

Three hundred yards or so farther N. is another tumulus, 30 paces in circumference and $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. This also has a piece of rock in one side (W.). It is made of soil and covered with turf and heather. It has been disturbed and there are loose stones in the centre.

IV.

Still further N., opposite Craig Arthur, is a fourth tumulus, much disturbed, about 30 paces in circumference and $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. high. This is also composed of soil and covered with turf and heather. A few stones lie in the centre.

N.B.—It was found impossible at the time of the visit—a wet day—to ascertain the exact positions of Nos. 2, 3, and 4.

Seen March 6, 1928.

CAIRN : CRAIG Y FORWYN.

SITE. This stands about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.E. of Craig y Forwyn and $\frac{1}{2}$ m. E.N.E. of Plas Uchaf (Eglwyseg Manor House), which is situated 4 m. slightly E. of N. of Llangollen town.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 1' 28''$; long. $3^{\circ} 8' 10''$ (approx.).]

DESCRIPTION. The circumference is about 53 paces and present height $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. It has been dug into at the centre, and a cist, measuring 6 ft. by 3 ft., exposed. At the side of the cist is a large slab, 7 ft. by 6 ft.—probably the covering stone, and near by are two other smaller slabs. Heather grows on the undisturbed parts. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. The following allusion in *Arch. Camb.* for 1865, p. 134 ("Antiquities . . . of Eglwyseg"), may be to this cairn : "On the mountain, about a mile from Eglwyseg Manor House, in the direction of Llanerchrugog Hall, four miles distant, is a cairn, the stones of which have been displaced so as to expose the large one covering the grave."

Seen March 6, 1928.

TUMULUS : CRAIG Y FORWYN.

SITE. The position of this is $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.N.E. of Craig y Forwyn and about 176 paces W. of the last-mentioned cairn.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 1' 29''$; long. $3^{\circ} 8' 20''$ (approx.).]

DESCRIPTION. The circumference is 36 paces and height $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. It is composed of soil. A considerable portion of the tumulus on the N. side has been removed. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

Seen March 6, 1928.

CAIRN : SYCHNANT.

SITE. This is situated about 320 yds. to the W.S.W. of the point where the parishes of Esclusham Above, Pen-y-cae, and Llangollen Rural meet, about 5 m. N.N.E. of Llangollen town.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 18''$; long. $3^{\circ} 8' 30''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The circumference of this fine cairn is about 70 paces and its height 6 or 7 ft. It is partly covered with heather. At the summit a bowl-shaped cavity, about 3 ft. deep, has been made, the stones removed having been heaped on the N. side. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

EXPLORATION. About the year 1890 Mr. James R. Ewart, then of Plas Uchaf (now of Dinbren), made an opening into this cairn, removing the stones down to the ground level. About the middle he came upon black ashes, some small bones, a horse's tooth, and a flint arrowhead. He was of opinion that the cairn had been disturbed previously and the stones and soil thrown back. Unfortunately, the flint implement has been lost sight of. Information supplied by Mr. T. Ewart, son of Mr. J. R. Ewart.

Visited Feb. 28, 1928.

CAIRN : NANT CRAIG-Y-MOCH.

SITE. This is situated a little under $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.N.E. of Plas Uchaf (which is 4 m. N. of Llangollen town), and 250 yds. N. of Craig-y-moch wood, 24 paces w. of the footpath.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 1' 45''$; long. $3^{\circ} 8' 43''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The material is whinstones and turf. Circumference, about 26 paces, and height 3 ft. A crescent-shaped trench, 7 yds. long, has been dug on the N. fringe of the cairn, exposing a wall-like arrangement of large stones round the margin. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

Reported by Mr. T. J. Ewart. Seen Sept. 27, 1928.

CAIRN : TOWER, TREVOR.

SITE. This cairn is situated immediately to the w. of the structure known as the Tower, erected about 1860 by Mr. G. Hampden Whalley, who resided at Trevor Tower, a house $\frac{3}{4}$ m. to the E. The spot is $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. W.N.W. of Trevor Station.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiv, S.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 58' 49''$; long. $3^{\circ} 7' 32''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The cairn, which is a large one, has undergone considerable disturbance. Some of the stones may have been used to build the Tower and the wall close by. On the w. side a clearance has been made from the margin towards the centre. The circumference, which is not easy to determine, is at least 70 paces, and the present height 4 or 5 ft. It has been covered with heather, which at the time of visit was burnt. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

In the enclosed areas to the w. of this cairn are a considerable number of stone heaps of different sizes, which somewhat resemble cairns. These, it is almost certain, were formed in modern times of stones collected from the surface of the ground.

Seen Ap. 11, 1928.

CAIRNS : BLACKWOOD, TREVOR.

I.

One cairn in the Black Wood is situated about 90 paces from the road to the s. and 280 paces from the w. fence.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiv, S.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 58' 51''$; long. $3^{\circ} 7' 1''$.]

It is small in size, measuring about 18 paces in circumference and $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. The stones, which are fairly large, are partly covered with peaty soil, in which one tree and wimberry bushes grow. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

II.

The remains of a larger cairn are to be seen about 200 yds. to the N.W. of No. 1. [Lat. $52^{\circ} 58' 55''$; long. $3^{\circ} 7' 6''$.]

This is about 25 paces in circumference and 2 ft. in height. The stones have been much disturbed. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

With regard to the above, one cannot be absolutely certain that they are not heaps of stones gathered from the surface of the ground in recent times. There are other collections of stones and various traces of indeterminate structures in the wood.

Seen Ap. 11, 1928.

REMAINS OF CAIRNS: NEAR EGLWYSEG PLANTATION.

I.

SITE. The position is between $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. and $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. in a straight line N.W. of Llangollen Bridge, 200 yds. or so E. of the S.E. angle of "Eglwyseg Plantation," and 20 yds. N. of a path leading to the mountain.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiv, S.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 59' 16''$; long. $3^{\circ} 8' 46''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This is about 45 paces in circumference and $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height on the N.W. side, where a small portion of the cairn is left undisturbed. Nearly all the stones have been removed from the interior. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

II.

SITE. These remains are to be seen on the western extremity of a low oval hill to the S. of a plantation about $1\frac{3}{4}$ m. N.E. of Llangollen.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiv, S.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 59' 19''$; long. $3^{\circ} 8' 31''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The remains were thus described by Mr. J. Ronald Bruce, M.Sc., of Port Erin, I.O.M., May 15, 1920 : "They consist of a low and roughly annular mound, composed apparently of small grit stones, but much overgrown with grass and heather. They are about 25 feet in diameter, and raised from 1 ft. to $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. above surrounding level." When seen by the writer on Oct. 25, 1927, the grass and heather were burnt and the site was bare. Little more than a ring of stones—the "cairn circle"—apparently, almost obliterated on the E. and N.E., 10 paces across—is left. Some of the stones had recently been disturbed. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

Seen Oct. 25, 1927.

REMAINS OF CAIRNS: TREVOR ROCKS.

I.

SITE. This is situated between $1\frac{1}{4}$ and $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the N.E. of Llangollen Bridge, by the side [N.] of a track which leads from Pen-y-gaer, Trevor, in the direction of the Eglwyseg plantation.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiv, S.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 59' 1''$; long. $3^{\circ} 8' 23''$.]

DESCRIPTION. These remains, which are on a slight slope just above the track already mentioned, measure about 50 paces in circumference and 2 ft. in height. Considerable quantities of the material have been removed, there being several holes in the interior of the cairn. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

II.

Fifty paces or so to the W.N.W. of No. 1, on the N. side of a gate through which the track referred to passes, are possibly the remains of another smaller cairn.

III.

About 170 yds. to the W.N.W. of No. 1, close to the same track, on the S. side, are the remains of another cairn, the circumference of which is about 33 paces, and its present height 1 ft. Nearly all the stones have been carried away, a thin layer only remaining. Elevation: above contour line 1,000.

[Lat. $52^{\circ} 59' 3.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 8' 30''$.]

IV.

The remains of yet another cairn are to be seen 100 paces or so a little to E. of N. of No. 3, some 85 paces from the track, and 15 paces E. of a wall that runs from the same in a N.E. direction. It is about 28 paces in circumference and $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. high. The "cairn circle" is visible in places. Elevation: above contour line 1,000.

[Lat. $52^{\circ} 59' 6''$; long. $3^{\circ} 8' 28''$.]

Seen Oct. 25, 1927.

V (CHIEFTAIN'S GRAVE).

SITE. These remains are situated about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. (in a straight line) N.E. of Llangollen and a little over $\frac{1}{2}$ m. W.N.W. of Bryngoleu, just to the S. of the track leading past the latter place from "Eglwyseg Plantation." The exact spot is at a bend in a wire fence, marking the boundary of Trevor Uchaf and Trevor Isaf townships, which passes over the cairn.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiv, S.E.: lat. $52^{\circ} 59' 5.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 8' 14''$.]

DESCRIPTION. Only the N.E. and S.W. margins (the former about $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. high) are left, the central part having been removed to make room for the wire fence that passes over or through it. The base of the fence inside the area of the cairn is of stone. The circumference would be about 38 paces. Elevation: above contour line 1,250.

NAME. In the Inclosure Award Map (1849) in the custody of the Llangollen R.D. Council, this cairn is called the "Chieftain's Grave," a name no doubt given owing to human remains being discovered in it at the time of its destruction, possibly when the fence was being put up.

Map inspected and site visited Nov. 22, 1927.

VI.

Sixty paces to the E.S.E. of No. 5 are the remains of another small cairn about 16 paces in circumference. Little more than the "cairn circle" is left. [Lat. $52^{\circ} 59' 6''$; long. $3^{\circ} 8' 10''$.]

VII.

At a distance of 130 yds. or so N.E. of No. 5 are the remains of a large cairn, 60 paces in circumference. The bulk of the stones have been removed from the centre, where a modern rough shelter has been erected. The height of the margin that has been left is from 3 to 4 ft. Heather grows over the undisturbed parts. It is just possible that the cairn is encircled by a slight trench. Elevation: above contour line 1,250. [Lat. $52^{\circ} 59' 7.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 8' 7''$.]

Seen Nov. 22, 1927.

CARNEDD FOEL DDU : EGLWYSEG PLANTATION.

On the Inclosure Award Map (1849) in the possession of the Llangollen R.D. Council, the above name occurs at the N.E. angle of the "Eglwyseg Plantation," which is at the top of the rocks about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. of Dinbren Isaf. No trace of a cairn is now visible at the spot indicated, or in the immediate neighbourhood. The material may have been used to build the stone wall, now in ruins, that runs from the spot in a S.E. direction.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiv, S.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 59' 20''$; long. $3^{\circ} 9' 9''$.]

Map and site inspected Nov. 22, 1927.

STONE CIRCLE : EGLWYSEG MOUNTAIN.

SITE. The position of this is about 170 paces to the S.W. of cairn No. 1 (p. 259), and 50 yds. or so to the S. of the wire fence that crosses over the cairn and a tumulus $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the W.S.W.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiv, N.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 59' 51\cdot5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 9'$.]



Photo. by Rev. D. J. Bowen, M.Sc.

FIG. 78—STONE CIRCLE, EGLWYSEG MOUNTAIN.

DESCRIPTION. This circle, which is about 16 paces across, has about 40 stones in, and close to, the periphery, and nearly 30 inside. Outside the stones forming the circle is a low bank of earth measuring about 54 paces around on the outer side. When seen in 1920 the circle was nearly hidden by heather. In the summer of 1926 the Rev. D. J. Bowen, Head Master of Ruabon Grammar School, and a number of the older scholars cleared all the heather from the interior.

When visited in the Autumn of 1927 the inside was quite bare and all the stones visible. The structure is evidently what is known as a "cairn circle." Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

Seen May 4, 1920, and Oct. 25, 1927.

[*Inventory*, No. 408, p. 116.]

EARTHEN CIRCLE : EGLWYSEG MOUNTAIN.

SITE. The position of this is about 75 yds. E.S.E. of Tumulus No. 1 (p. 257).

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiv, N.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 59' 44.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 9' 29''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This consists of an earthen ring, measuring 34 paces in circumference (outside), $4\frac{1}{2}$ ft. wide, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. high. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

DEW POND (?) : EGLWYSEG MOUNTAIN.

About 80 paces E.N.E. of the Earthen Circle and 53 s. of the wire fence, is a saucer-shaped hollow surrounded by a low bank of soil 37 paces in circumference outside. Rushes grow in the bottom of it. If not of modern construction it may possibly be a dew pond.

Seen Oct. 25, 1927.

MEINI HIRION : EGLWYSEG MOUNTAIN.

1. One lies prostrate near the s. edge of a plantation on Eglwyseg Mountain, about $1\frac{3}{4}$ m. N.N.W. of Llangollen. It is somewhat triangular in shape and measures about $6\frac{1}{2}$ ft. by 5 ft.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiv, N.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 59' 40''$; long. $3^{\circ} 9' 14''$.]

2. Another is to be seen 150 yds. or so to the E. of the plantation referred to above, and about 200 s.w. of the Stone Circle. This, which is 7 ft. long, 3 ft. wide, and 3 ft. 6 in. deep, leans low towards the w. [Lat. $52^{\circ} 59' 46''$; long. $3^{\circ} 9' 6''$ (approx.).]

3. A third stands erect in the line of a wire fence, 60 yds. or so to the S.E. of cairn. This is between 5 and 6 ft. in height, 3 ft. 6 in. in breadth, and 20 in. in width. Close by are two large boulders. This group of stones is designated "Cerrig Maen Melin Mawr" ("The Stones of the large Mill-stone") in the Inclosure Award Map in the custody of the Llangollen R.D. Council. [Lat. $52^{\circ} 59' 53.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 8' 5''$.]

Seen Oct. 25 and Nov. 2, 1927.

STANDING STONE : CARREG Y BIG.

SITE. This stands $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.S.E. of Llangollen, at the E. end of a narrow plantation, which is just to the w. of the junction of the road that leads from Llangollen up Allt-y-Gwernant with another road running E. and w.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxix, N.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 56' 57.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 9' 16''$.]

DESCRIPTION. Carreg y big is a rude monolith, about 9 ft. high, 1 ft. 6 in. wide at the bottom, 1 ft. 1 in. at the top, and $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. thick,

leaning considerably to the w. It is not certain whether it is a *maenhir* or a boundary stone. The date 1868, which is cut on the stone, does not, however, represent the year of its erection, for a person living in 1925 remembered it without the date.

LEGEND. In a letter dated Aug. 4, 1925, the Rev. E. J. Fisher, Rector of Pontfadog, wrote: "The only local legend about it is that it marks the last resting-place of some giant of a distant past."

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. In the *Inventory*, No. 415, p. 118, "Carreg y big" is wrongly said to be the Welsh name of the "Raven's Bowl," a block of granite with a cup-like hollow in it, situated $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the E.N.E. of Carreg y big.

NAME. "Carreg y big" seems to mean "The Projecting or Peaked Stone." "Carreg y big" occurs also as the name of (1) "A small triangular rock, terminating in a sharp point almost opposite the old house of Penamnen Dolwyddelen" (see Fenton's *Tours*, p. 188); (2) "A pointed rude stone"—"Carreg y big yn y Fach Rewlyd"—"which stands near the porch of Corwen Church" (Pennant's *Tours*, iii, 60). (3) A farm between Selattyn and Rhydycroesau. (4) "A huge stone standing in a field on the high ground near the village of Cross Inn, Cardiganshire" (*Arch. Camb.*, 1920, p. 282).

Seen May 12, 1925.

CAMP: PEN-Y-GAER, TREVOR.

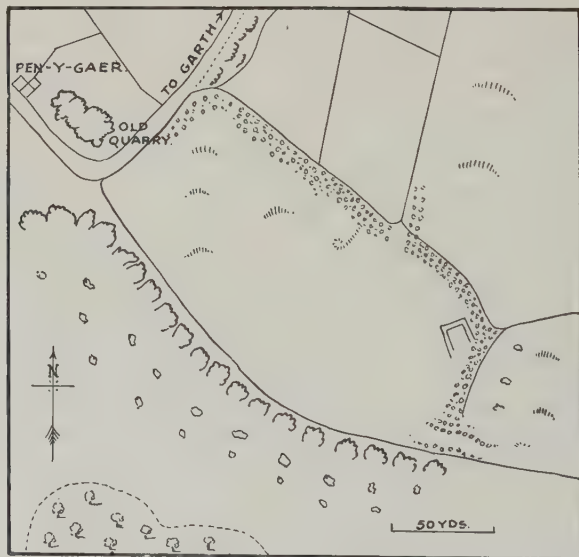


FIG. 79—PEN-Y-GAER CAMP.

SITE. The camp bearing the name Pen-y-gaer is situated about a mile, in a straight line, w.n.w. of Trevor Station, and $\frac{1}{4}$ m. s.w. of Garth village. The site is the sloping field on the opposite side of the road to the house of Pen-y-gaer (now uninhabited). The owner is Mr. Trevor Hughes, Coed Alun, Carnarvon.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiv, s.e. : lat. $52^{\circ} 58' 30-35''$; long. $3^{\circ} 6' 54''-7' 4''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The camp, from which an excellent view of the country to the s. and w. is obtained, is over 3 acres in area, and is artificially protected on three sides, there being on the s.w. side a tremendous precipice. On the n.w. side the agger is incomplete, starting only about the middle in an easterly direction. At the n.e. corner it is very imperfect, but all down the n.e. side—a distance of 220 yds. or so—it is well preserved and has an average width of about 8 yds. A good many hut-like hollows are to be seen in the rampart on this side. These have probably been made by the removal of stones for building the modern wall which runs along the outside of it. There is an entrance about 140 paces from the top, which is guarded on the e. side by an outwork 35 paces in length formed by the out-curving of the rampart. There is also another entrance, hollowed, at the s.w. corner, on the verge of the precipice, with a track leading up to it. On the s.e. side, which is about 80 or 90 yds. in length, the wall is not nearly so strong as on the n.e. side, especially towards the s.w. corner. At the s.e. angle, some 12 paces from the agger, are the foundations of a modern building about 7 by 4 paces. There are springs outside within easy reach. The site cannot be considered a strong one either as regards its natural position or its artificial defences. On the n.w. side it is actually dominated by considerably higher ground.

EXCAVATION. During the summers of 1918 and 1919 the camp was excavated by a committee of the Ruabon and District Field Club, consisting of the following members :—Rev. D. J. Bowen, M.Sc. ; Mr. A. Brittain, M.Sc. ; Miss Laura Davies [now Mrs. Ronald Bruce] ; Miss Sybil Edwards ; Mr. B. Hough ; Rev. E. K. Jones ; Mr. W. Bezant Low, M.A. ; Mr. E. Mather, B.Sc. ; and Mr. J. Ronald Bruce, M.Sc. (Secretary).

Excavations were conducted at the following points :—

1. *Rampart.* (a) About midway between the entrance on the n.e. side and the s.e. corner “ a trench, 4 ft. in width, was carried across the entire thickness of the bank of loose stones, and several feet beyond it at either end, to a total length of 27 ft.” Nothing of interest was discovered. (b) Just to the s.e. of the entrance “ a trench was carried, again eastwards, along the inner side of the ceinture, and for a space of 7 ft. it was found that the outer side of the trench was marked by large stones, which, though only roughly piled, presented a line of facing.” At this point one of the circular, hut-like depressions in the rampart was examined, but found to possess no archaeological significance. No traces of a fosse were found on either side of the rampart.

2. *Entrance.* Here a narrow trench was cut across the e. side in order to ascertain whether the present gap in the rampart represented an original entrance or was merely due to surface-clearance. The evidence pointed to the former conclusion.

3. *Interior.* (a) At several points, as, for instance, to the n.w. of entrance, and near the n.w. corner of the camp, sites suggestive of

hut-circles were investigated, but without any definite results being obtained. (b) "In the rectangular enclosure . . . a trench was carried along the base of the northern wall, and disclosed the fact that the 'facing' continued downwards to a depth of 1 ft. below the



FIG. 80—RAMPART OF PEN-Y-GAER CAMP.

present surface, and that the lowest and foundation course consisted of larger blocks about 2 ft. in length, carefully selected and aligned, and resting directly upon the undisturbed rubbly subsoil. No surface-level was observed. The maximum height of the wall, including the foundation course, was found to be 3 ft. 9 in."

4. *Outside.* Two circular sites suggestive of huts were examined on the hill-slope to the w. of the camp, but without yielding positive results.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES. 1. In the *Parochialia* (Ed. Lhuyd, 1699), ii, p. 42, the camp is referred to in the following terms:—"Lhe y[=a] Elwir Pen-y-gaer yn nhrevor isâ; Lhe mae Kylch o gerrig rhydh" ("A place named Pen-y-gaer in Trevor Isaf [township], where is a circle of loose stones").

2. The Rev. H. Longueville Jones, in a list of Denbighshire "Camps, etc.," in *Arch. Camb.*, 1855, p. 262, refers to a "fortified post on limestone ridge, half a mile N.W. from Trevor Chapel."

3. In the *Inventory* of Denbighshire Ancient Monuments [No. 409, p. 116] the site described above and marked on the Ordnance maps is rejected in favour of an area 250 yds. to the N., the "features" of which, it is stated, "are now in great part obliterated."

Visited May, 1913, Nov. 20, 1918, and May 5, 1920.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1921, pp. 115-142.]

STONE CELT : TREVOR HALL.

DISCOVERY. This was found in January, 1908, by Mrs. E. J. Lloyd Edwards, of Trevor Hall, in the lane leading up to the house from Bryn Oerog, on the main road to Llangollen. When discovered the edge of the celt was protruding about an inch out of the surface of the road. Trevor Hall is $2\frac{3}{4}$ m. E. of Llangollen.

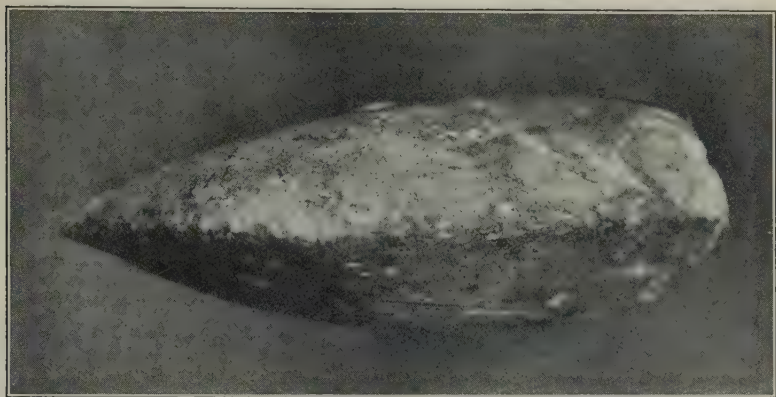


FIG. 81—STONE AXE, TREVOR HALL.

DESCRIPTION. The axe is not whole, the butt end having been broken off. The part remaining measures 6 in. in length and about $3\frac{1}{2}$ across, where broken. At the cutting edge it is not quite so broad. The edge at one end has been chipped. It is made of a heavy close-textured blue-gray coloured stone—probably Graig Lwyd rock. The surface is smoothed, but not polished. Weight, 654 grams.

PRESENT LOCATION. The implement, which was kindly sent by Mrs. Lloyd Edwards to the writer for inspection on Dec. 9, 1925, is preserved at Trevor Hall.

BRONZE PALSTAVE.

At the Temporary Museum in connection with the visit of the *Cambrian Archaeological Association* to Carmarthen in 1875, there was exhibited by the Rev. E. L. Barnwell a "paalstab from the mountain above Llangollen, nearly 7 inches long, and unusually massive" (*Arch. Camb.*, 1875, p. 415).

This may possibly be the palstave at the British Museum, said to have been found at Llangollen. The implement in question is $6\frac{3}{4}$ in. long, and was presented to the Museum in 1897 by Sir A. W. Franks.

Seen May 15, 1922.

BRONZE SOCKETED CELT: TREVOR.

DISCOVERY. This celt is said to have been found by workmen on Garth Mountain, which is a mile or so N.W. of Trevor Station, somewhere about 1860.



FIG. 82—SOCKETED CELT, TREVOR.

PRESENT LOCATION. The implement is in the possession of Mrs. Lloyd Edwards, of Trevor Hall.

DESCRIPTION. The celt is socketed and looped and has three parallel ribs on either side. Its dimensions are: length, $4\frac{1}{4}$ in.; breadth across cutting edge, $2\frac{1}{4}$ in.; socket, $1\frac{3}{8} \times 1\frac{1}{4}$ in. "The celt is of exquisite workmanship and in a remarkable state of preservation. It possesses a dark-green lustrous patina, and the metallic surface is exposed at one or two points on the curved edge of the blade. The weight of the celt is 410.6 grains and the specific gravity of the metal 8.102" (Report of Archaeological Committee of the *Ruabon and District Field Club*, June, 1919).

Celt seen Nov. 20, 1918.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1821, pp. 146-7.]

BRONZE SOCKETED SPEARHEADS : EGLWYSEG ROCKS,

DISCOVERY. About 1890 Mr. J. Hight Blundell, of Toddington, Berkshire, who was on a visit to Llangollen, turned into a small cottage—now a shop—on the summit of Castell Dinas Bran hill, where he noticed two bronze spearheads in a pot on the table. The socket of one had been damaged by a fire which had recently broken

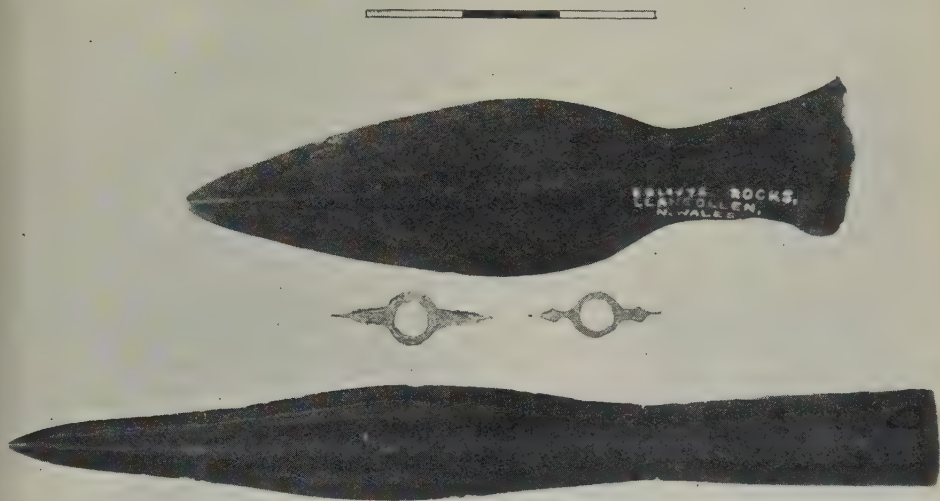


FIG. 83—BRONZE SOCKETED SPEARHEADS, EGLWYSEG ROCKS.

out in the cottage. The occupant—apparently Samuel Jones, who had worked all his life until about the time that the fire occurred at the Trevor Quarry, which extends from Tan-y-castell Farm to Sun Bank—informed Mr. Blundell, who acquired the implements from him, that he obtained them from a man who had lately discovered them near the surface of the ground at, or close to, a quarry at World's End, which is 4 m. N.N.E. of Llangollen town.

DESCRIPTION. 1. The longer. The blade is a little bent, and the haft end of the socket broken off. The haft was secured in the socket by means of a pin, for which holes are provided in the plane of the blade. Length, $9\frac{3}{4}$ in. ; breadth of blade, $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. ; weight, $5\frac{3}{4}$ oz.

2. The shorter. The socket and blade of this are wider, the former being nearly 2 in. in diameter at the bottom end, now damaged by the fire referred to, and the latter $1\frac{7}{8}$ in. broad at the widest part. The length is $7\frac{1}{4}$ in., and the weight $5\frac{1}{2}$ oz.

PRESENT LOCATION. They still remain in the possession of Mr. Hight Blundell, who kindly lent them to the writer Feb. 11, 1929, and furnished particulars. They were brought to the notice of the writer by Miss L. F. Chitty, Yockleton Rectory, Shrewsbury.

ALLEGED ROMAN FLOOR-TILE : NANT CRAIG-Y-MOCH.

About the year 1893 a sack-full of peat obtained from the moor some 700 yds. N.N.E. of the house of Plas Uchaf (Eglwyseg Manor House) was sent by Mr. James R. Ewart (now of Dinbren) to a party living in Birmingham—name and address forgotten—for use in their garden. Some time afterwards they wrote back to say that a Roman floor-tile had been found in one of the lumps of peat. This led to further digging at the spot where the peat was obtained but nothing more was discovered. The site is near the cairn described on p. 263.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 1' 43''$; long. $3^{\circ} 8' 44''$ (approx.)]

Information obtained from Mr. T. Ewart, Dinbren.

PENANNULAR BROOCH : TREVOR ROCKS.

DISCOVERY. This brooch was sent to the writer in January, 1928, by Sir G. H. Kenrick, Egbaston, whose father formerly resided at Dinbren Hall, Llangollen. All that Sir G. Kenrick knows about the discovery is what is stated on the small envelope in which it was kept, viz. :—"Bronze ear-ring found in Plantation on Trevor Rocks, 1881." The "Plantation" in question, no doubt, is that designated "Eglwyseg Plantation" in the 6 in. Ordnance Survey map, sheet xxxiv, S.E. [lat. $52^{\circ} 59' 15''$, long. $3^{\circ} 9' 5''$], and situated close to the Trevor Rocks almost due N. of Castell Dinas Bran, and about 1 m. in a bee line E.N.E. of Dinbren Hall.

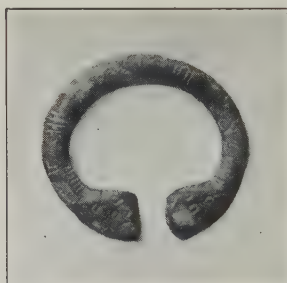


FIG. 84—PENANNULAR
BROOCH, TREVOR ROCKS.

DESCRIPTION. This is a very small penannular brooch of the zoomorphic terminal type, with the pin missing. It measures $\frac{1}{8}$ in. across the longer axis and $\frac{3}{4}$ in. across the shorter. On the upper or "better" side of the bow or hoop is a series, at short intervals, of transverse grooves imitating a wire-coil, and on the same side of the flat, expanded terminals are a number of rings and dots. There are also two parallel grooves along the outer edge of the hoop. Mr. Reginald A. Smith, F.S.A. [see a paper on "Irish Brooches of Five Centuries" in *Archaeologia*, lxx (1914), p. 225; also *British Museum Guide to the Antiquities of Roman Britain* (1922), pp. 56, 57], is of

opinion that this type of penannular brooch, with "zoomorphic" terminals, is a Welsh form (derived originally from a Roman pattern) as affected apparently by the Romanized Britons after the withdrawal of the legions early in the fifth century. Dr. Mortimer Wheeler (*Arch. Camb.*, 1923, p. 20; *Segontium and Rom. Occup. of Wales*, 1923, p. 138) inclines to the opinion that, inasmuch as several Welsh specimens [four up to 1923; others since] were discovered on or adjoining Roman sites, a date in the fourth century (or probably earlier) rather than in the latter part of the fifth century is to be preferred for the beginning of the series.

OTHER EXAMPLES FROM WALES. 1. Porth Dafarch, Anglesey. Found in 1878 close to an occupation floor which yielded Roman pottery. Diameter $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. The terminals are flat and oblong, with cuts across the corners. In the British Museum [*Arch. Camb.*, 1878, pp. 25, 26 (illustrated).]

2. Caerwent. Complete, with pin. Diameter $3\frac{3}{8}$ in. Terminals, similar. In Newport (Mon.) Museum (*Segontium*, pp. 137-8].

3. Caersws. A small and damaged brooch found with other objects by Prof. R. C. Bosanquet in the Roman Fort. Diameter $1\frac{5}{16}$ in. Terminals, similar. Transverse lines on bow. Pin missing. [*Arch. Camb.*, 1923, p. 20 (illustrated on p. 27); *Segontium*, p. 138.]

4. Castell Collen. Ring and pin complete. Diameter 4.9 cm. ($1\frac{15}{16}$ in.). Terminals: "rectangular knobs, with chamfered corners, forming lozenge-shaped serpents' heads: eyes punched with dot and circle." Found in débris in w. corner of courtyard, Commandant's House, in 1913. [*Arch. Camb.*, 1914, p. 43 (illustrated, p. 44).]

5. Caernarvon (Segontium). Discovered in course of excavation in 1922. Part of brooch, with engraved transverse lines on front surface, smooth back. Terminals, similar. Diameter $2\frac{3}{8}$ in. In National Museum of Wales. [*Arch. Camb.*, 1923, p. 18; *Segontium* pp. 136-7.]

6. Kenfig. Portion of a bow picked up in 1927. Diameter $1\frac{3}{4}$ in. Flattened terminal, of late degenerated form, ornamented with four incised "ring and dots" and an equal armed cross. [*Arch. Camb.*, 1928, p. 201 (illustrated).]

PRESENT LOCATION. The writer deposited the brooch in the St. Asaph Cathedral Museum in 1929.

LLANGWM.

TUMULUS: YSTRAD FAWR.

SITE. This stands in the yard of Ystrad Fawr Farm, between the present house and the old house, which is to the E.N.E. of the former. Ystrad Fawr is $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. of Llangwm village.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxii, N.W.: lat. $52^{\circ} 59' 37.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 31' 58''$.]

DESCRIPTION. Only about half of the tumulus remains, portions having at different times been carried away to make room for farm buildings. The tumulus was originally a very large one, measuring,

as far as one can now judge, at least 120 yds. in circumference and 8 or 9 ft. in height. The undisturbed part is covered with turf. Elevation: just above contour line 800. Its local name is "Banc Owen."

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. In the *Parochialia* (1699), pt. II, p. 53, the following item occurs under Llangwm:—"Q[uaere] Bryn Owen a Tumulus at Ystrad." A battle—the Battle of Llangwm—is said to have been fought between Meredydd ab Owain ab Hywel Dda, Prince of Deheubarth, who claimed sovereignty over Powys and Gwynedd, and Idwal ab Meurig, a prince of North Wales (see *Brut y Tywysogion*, s.a. 993 A.D. [*Myv. Arch.*, p. 693]), on a field called Bryn Owen and belonging to Ty Gwyn Farm, a quarter of a mile N.E. of Ystrad Fawr. In *Cymru*, a Welsh topographical, etc., dictionary by Owen Jones (1875), it is stated under Llangwm that "human bones are frequently found in the earth near Ystrad Fawr."

INTERMENT EXPOSED. On June 8, 1927, the writer was informed that bones had recently been found in a mound at Ystrad Fawr. A visit was paid to the farm on June 30th, a day which turned out very wet, and the freeholder, Mr. J. H. Jones, interviewed. Mr. Jones, in May, 1924, removed a good slice of the N.E. portion of the tumulus in order to make room to put up a shed. He also carried away quantities of soil from the S.E. side so as to secure an approach to the new shed. The tumulus had previously been considerably disturbed on this side by Mr. Jones himself, who has occupied the farm since about 1907, and by his predecessors. An outbuilding erected many years ago stands partly inside the orbit. It was on this latter side, the S.E., not far from the original surface of the ground and about the middle of the mound, that bones were noticed by two servants, Edward Smith (died 1924) and Urias J. Hughes, Glandwr, Tynant, after three or four slabs, measuring about 2 ft. by 1½ ft., were removed. Mr. Jones's attention having been drawn to the human remains, he ordered the digging to be stopped and the bones to be covered up. Mr. Jones did not notice any pottery. A few days later, however, he picked up on the surface of the soil a circular metal object, like the stopper of an aerated water bottle, of bright yellow colour. This he eventually, after carrying in his pocket for several weeks, lost sight of. The soil from the tumulus was spread on the fields known as Dôl and Sarnau. Soon after the writer's arrival, the rain having somewhat abated temporarily, Mr. Jones procured a spade and began to remove the soil he had put on the bones, which were at once exposed. The writer then undertook to clear away the soil with his hands. Pieces of pottery were immediately noticed mixed with the soil and the bones. Great care was taken to examine all the soil, and to extract the bones and pottery. No implements were found, but two small notched cylindrical beads—two segments in one and four in the other—were detected and kept. Of the cist only four stones remained, viz. that which served as floor, and on which the cinerary urn rested mouth downwards, two forming the N. side, which were erect, and the one on the W. side, which was leaning inwards. The latter had evidently crushed the pottery. This did not seem to have happened recently,

but long ago, and possibly soon after the remains were deposited. The floor stone, which measured 20 inches square and 2 inches deep, was blackened with charcoal or ashes. Fairly large portions of pottery—rim pieces chiefly—were rescued from underneath the leaning stone. Later it was discovered that a few fragments of an urn and some bones had slipped off the E. edge of the floor stone and were at its side and almost beneath it. At first one began to think that there was another burial under the flat stone, but its removal showed conclusively that there was nothing of the kind. The flat floor stone rested on a quantity of stones heaped loosely together. Fragments of two kinds of vessels were mixed up in the cist—those of a cinerary urn and of a food vessel. The bones were those of a young person, a female presumably judging from the presence of beads. The cist, as far as one could gather, was about 2 ft. square, perhaps a little less. There was no covering stone when the writer examined the spot, but Urias Hughes said that the top, when he first saw it, resembled the roof of a house, which showed that the cist had caved in at some previous time. About a yard above the interment was a layer of stones which, as seen in the section, seemed to arch over it. This can be seen also in the S.E. section, extending right through the tumulus like a bow. It is evident that the barrow in the course of construction was covered with a layer of stones 3 ft. or so below the present surface. Layers of stones protecting interments, of different periods apparently, were found in a tumulus which was excavated on Ffridd-y-garreg-wen, Whitford, in 1921 (*Arch. Camb.*, 1921, pp. 265–289). No evidence of a stone circle or retaining wall was visible. Mr. Jones kindly allowed the writer to take the pieces of pottery and the bones home with him. Another visit was paid a fortnight later (July 20th), and the site of the burial carefully examined, but nothing beyond a few minute fragments of pottery, bones, charcoal, and a single broken bead was noticed. The interment, being practically on the level of the ground floor and about 7 ft. below the surface of the tumulus, would seem to have been primary. It would date back apparently to about 1300 B.C.

DESCRIPTION OF FINDS. 1. *Bones*. These were despatched to Sir Arthur Keith, who thus reported on them: "Royal College of Surgeons of England . . . 5th July, 1927: Dear Mr. Davies. You are right: the bones are those of a young person—about twelve years of age and more likely to be a girl than a boy. But one cannot be sure of the sex."

2. *Beads*. These are two in number, one with two segments, measuring $\frac{3}{8}$ in. in length, and the other with four segments; total length, a little over $\frac{1}{4}$ in. The colour of the former is cobalt blue, which is faded on one side; and that of the latter, a very light tint of blue. The material of which they are made is faïence, i.e. glazed pottery, made in imitation of the vitreous paste that was common in ancient Egypt. These beads, examples of which have been discovered also in Wiltshire, Dorset, Cornwall, and elsewhere, are believed to be of local manufacture. According to Abercromby (*Bronze Age Pottery*, vol. ii, 68, 113) they belong, in this country, to the middle

period of the Bronze Age (B.C. 1350–900), a date about 1350 B.C., being the limit beyond which it is hardly safe to carry back interments with which they are associated (pp. 66, 67).

3. *Pottery.* a. Cinerary Urn. About 20 fragments of the upper and decorated part of the urn were recovered, and of the lower plain portion, about 35 of one inch and over in length, together with

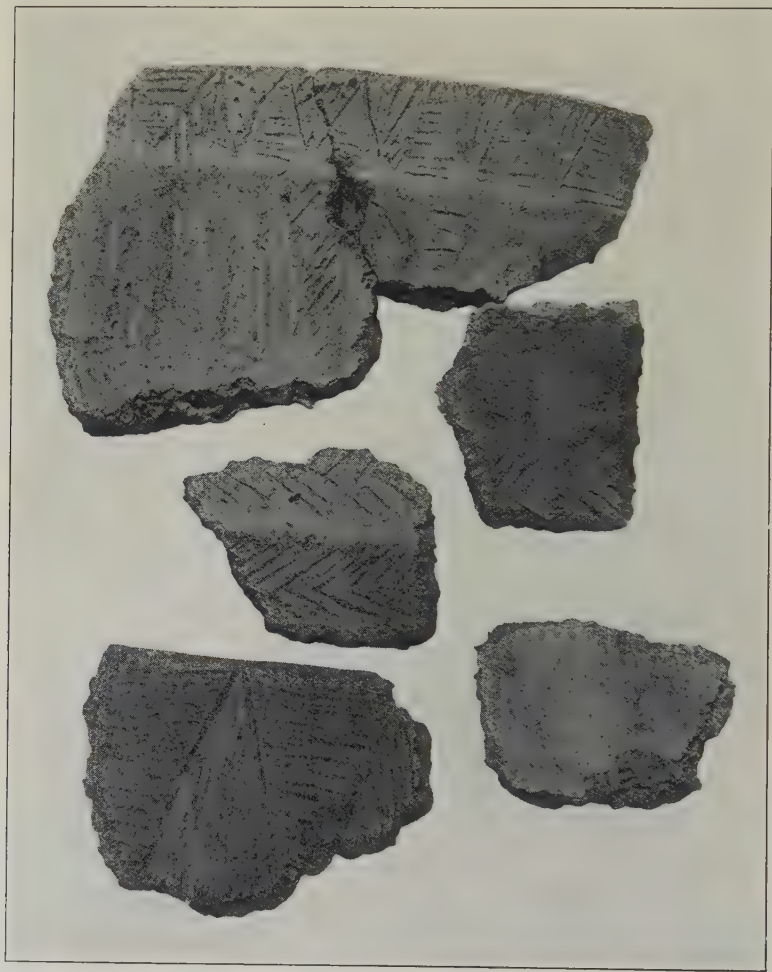


FIG. 85—FRAGMENTS OF CINERARY URN, YSTRAD FAWR.

a large number of smaller pieces. The largest fragment—a part of the rim and neck—measured $4\frac{1}{4}$ in. by $3\frac{3}{4}$ in. The average thickness is about $\frac{1}{2}$ in. The clay of which the urn was made contains some grit. Outside, the colour varies from brown to black, and inside it is partly black and partly drab. The vessel was a remarkably fine one as regards both size and ornament. The diameter of the mouth was $12\frac{3}{4}$ in., and that of the base 4 in. Of the height one cannot be

certain ; probably it was about 15 in. The whole of the upper half, together with the wide internal lip, was covered with ornamentation. The diagrammatical illustration of the urn as hypothetically restored

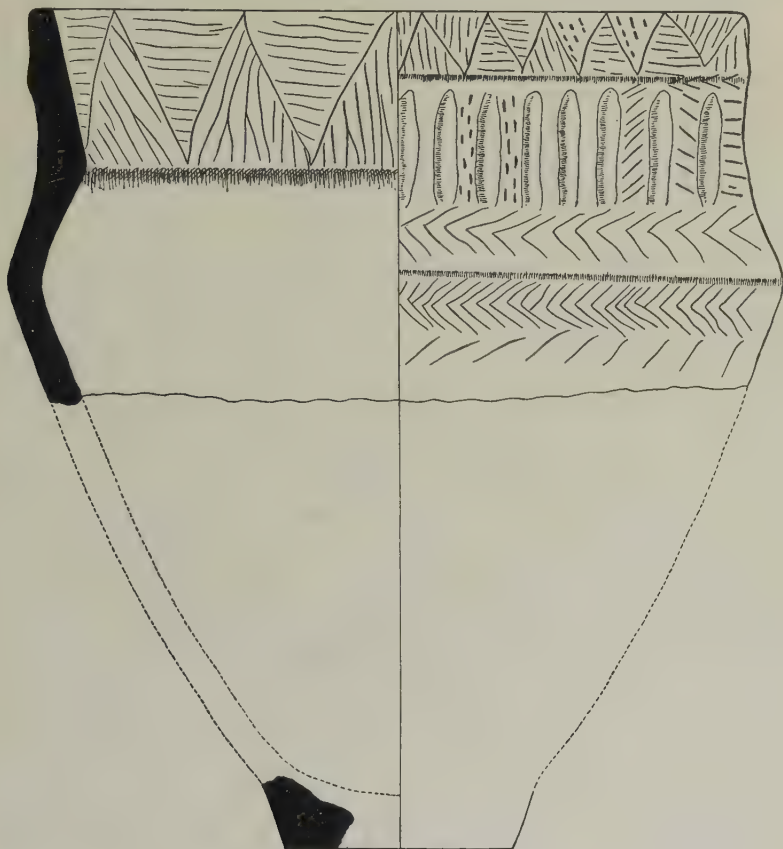


FIG. 86—URN RESTORED.

and the photograph of the fragments render a detailed description unnecessary. Abercromby's *Bronze Age Pottery* (vol. ii) contains no example which resembles this urn either in the shape of the upper part or in the ornament taken as a whole. There are, of course, features of the latter which are common, like the chevron or zig-zag and the herring-bone patterns and the line triangles (shaded), but the vertical grooves or flutes made with the thumb nail are unusual and not paralleled in Abercromby.

b. Food Vessel. The number of fragments recovered was 25, the largest being $2\frac{3}{4}$ in. by $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. The whole vessel, together with the inside of the lip, was covered with decoration arranged in horizontal bands or zones. See the diagrammatical reconstruction and photograph. Nearly all the decoration on the upper part above the shoulder was produced by the impression of a twisted cord, that in the lower part, except the cavetto or fluted bands, with a sharp tool or finger

nail. The dimensions were :—Diameter of the mouth, $5\frac{3}{8}$ in. ; ditto of the base, $2\frac{3}{4}$ in. ; height, $6\frac{1}{2}$ in. The colour outside is reddish brown, and inside black. The vessel was well baked, the surface being

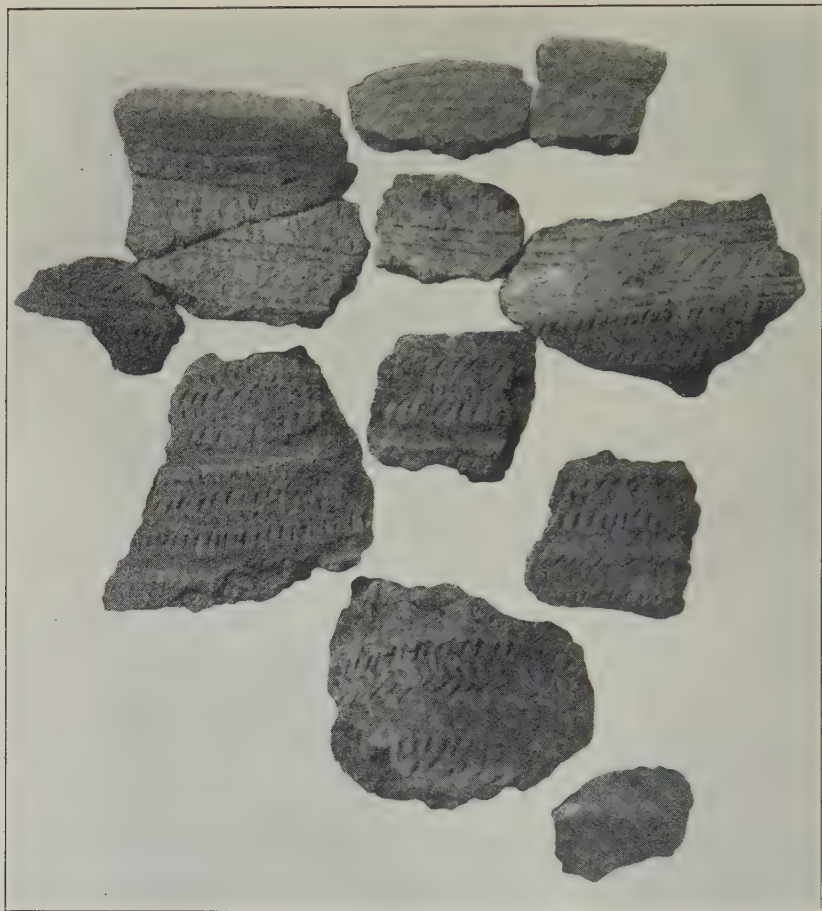


FIG. 87—FRAGMENTS OF FOOD VESSEL, YSTRAD FAWR.

polished. The walls are thin, averaging less than $\frac{1}{4}$ in., and formed of fairly fine paste in which apparently were no broken stones. The vessel belongs to the period of transition between the beaker and the food vessel, with both of which kinds it has affinities ; its lip, shape, and concave zones are decidedly of food vessel type, while its thin walls, smooth surface, fine workmanship, and ornament arranged in alternate zones are reminiscent of the beaker. In Abercromby's *Bronze Age Pottery* (vol. i) there is not one vessel exactly like it in form or shape. As to the ornamentation, though its

elements are of the simplest description, yet in design or arrangement it differs from all the examples given in that work.

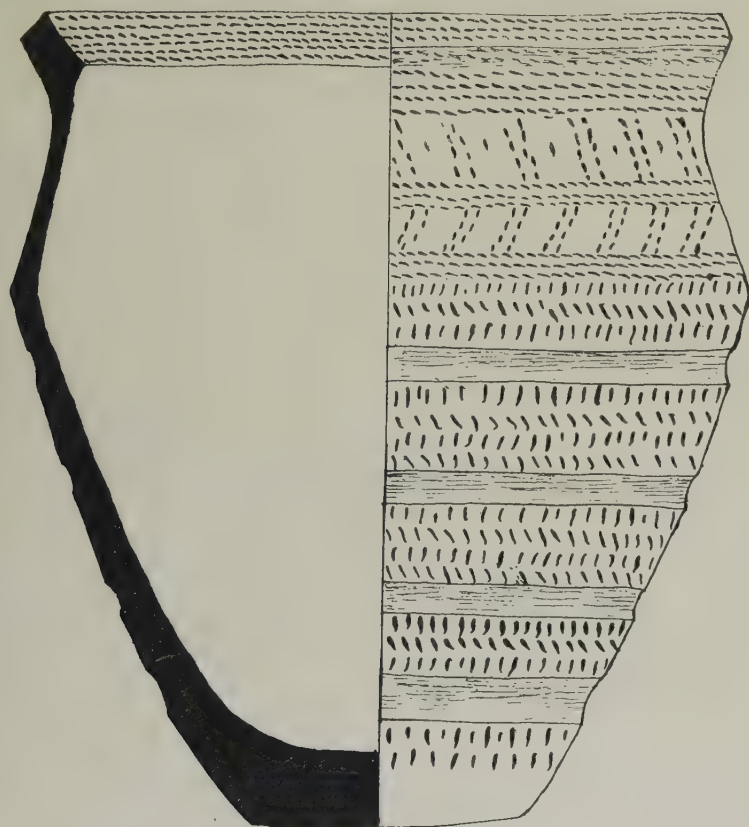


FIG. 88—FOOD VESSEL FROM YSTRAD FAWR, LLANGWM.

PRESENT LOCATION OF FINDS. These at present remain in the possession of the writer, but will shortly be presented to the National Museum of Wales.

REMAINS OF TUMULUS: CADER DDINMAEL.

SITE. These are situated at the highest point of the mountain ridge known as Cader Ddinmael, 1,547 ft. above Ordnance datum. This summit presumably is the "Cader" or "Chair," but is now called "Mwdwl Eithin," because at one time it was the site of a beacon.*

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxii, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 0' 37''$; long. $3^{\circ} 30' 23''$.]

DESCRIPTION. At the spot indicated is an artificially raised platform, circular in form, and measuring about 60 paces in circumference, and 3 or 4 ft. in height, on the top of which is a cone-shaped pile of stones erected recently. This platform has every appearance of being the base of a tumulus or cairn which may have been dismantled to adapt the site for beacons.

Seen July 25, 1922.

* Cf. *Parochialia* ii, 53 : "There was a Beacon at Cader Dhinmael."

MEINI'R BEIRDD : CADER DDINMAEL.

REFERENCES TO REMAINS. 1. In a letter dated Dec. 22, 1693, and addressed by the Rev. John Lloyd, of Ruthin, to Edward Lhuyd (*Ashmole MSS.* in the Bodleian Library, vol. 1816, fol. 232), the following reference to remains on Cader Ddinmael occurs:—"Meini'r Beirdd in Cader Ddimael, or Maen y Bardh, as another calld ym, lie thus $\begin{smallmatrix} \circ\circ \\ \circ\circ \end{smallmatrix}$ or y^e stones nearer to one another, and both 4 ab^t 9 yds distant from y^e other. The man y^t took of ym 4 away was my guide. A man came by and deterr'd ym from meddling with any more of ym alledging mae rhiw athrawon a gladded yna, neu i rhiw bwrpas felly y gosoded y rhain" ["alleging that certain teachers were buried there, or that these were set for some such purpose"].

2. In the *Parochialia* (ii, p. 53) the remains are thus alluded to: "Meini'r Beirdd[ar] wrth Gader Dhinmael yn ymyl y Mwdwl Eithin. Pymp neu chwech o gerrig yn gae kwmpas" ("Meini'r Beirdd [The Stones of the Bards] by Cader Ddinmael near Mwdwl Eithin [lit. 'Gorse Cock'=Beacon]. Five or six stones in a circle").

3. *Peniarth MS.* 176 (date between 1545 and 1553) [Report, i, p. 971, fol. 39]: "*Maen y Bardd* y sydd ar y ffordd rrwng kadair dinmael ar betws o fewn tref | lysan vab y lleian, ac yn y main hynny y rrain sydd yn vedrod gron vechan i kad an ab y lleian, amurddyn y lleian y sydd is law hynny yn ymyl . . . y llysdir" [Maen y Bardd is on the way between Cadair Ddinmael and Bettws, within the township of Llysanfab y lleian, and within those stones which form a small round grave was begotten the illegitimate son of the nun, and the ruined walls of the nun are below that near . . . the Court-land].

REMAINS NO LONGER EXTANT. The remains described above do not seem to be extant at present. The writer on July 25, 1922, made a careful, but vain, search for the same all along the ridge and sides of the Cader. No knowledge of the former existence of the remains could be obtained locally.

[*Inventory*, No. 441, p. 125.]

SITE OF FORT : CAER GERRIG.

SITE. The site here indicated is about 300 yds. to the s. of Pont y Glyn-diffwys, which spans the River Ceirw $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. of Llangwn Parish Church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxii, s.w. : lat. 52° 59' 4" ; long. 3° 30' 10".]

DESCRIPTION. There are no traces of a fort to be seen now at this spot, but it is said that years ago the remains of a bank were plainly visible just to the w. of the farmhouse bearing the name Caer Gerrig (that is, Stone Fort). The site on which this house stands is an elevated one, commanding a fairly extensive view of the country around.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. The *Parochialia* (Ed. Lhuyd), pt. ii, p. 53, has the following entry:—"Y Gaer Gerrig in Penyved is an Encampment."

Visited June, 1917.

HORSESHOE PAVEMENT: DOLPENNAU.

SITE. The remains here referred to were discovered in the middle of a meadow called "Y Ddol" (The Meadow), which is situated between the Rivers Ceirw and Marddwr, near their junction. The meadow in question is a few hundred yards N.E. of Dolpennau Farm, to which it belongs.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxii, s.w. : lat. $52^{\circ} 59' 17''$; long. $3^{\circ} 28' 56''$.]

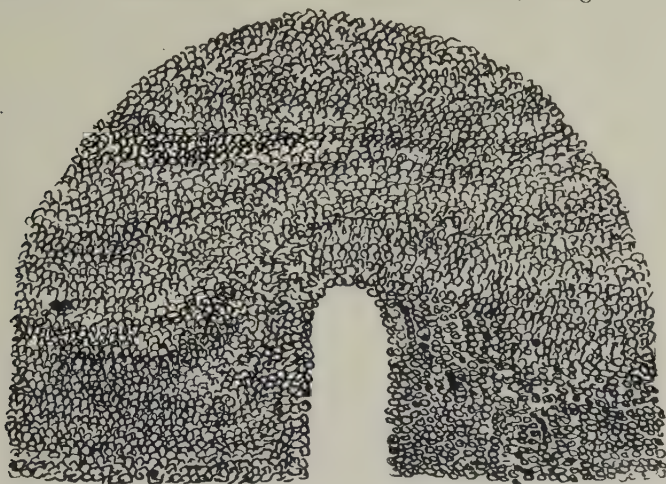


FIG. 89—HORSE-SHOE PAVEMENT, DOLPENNAU.

DESCRIPTION. Previous to 1900 or thereabouts the remains under consideration consisted of a horseshoe-shaped stone pavement averaging in width about 7 yds., with a space in the centre measuring about 2 yds. across. On the pavement was a layer of soil about 4 in. in depth. The stones forming the pavement were about the size of human skulls, and were more or less round and smooth as though they had been carried from the bed of the river.

DESTRUCTION. At the date above mentioned all the stones—some scores of cartloads—were carried away for road metal by the tenant of Dolpennau, Mr. Robert Roberts, assisted by two roadmen (now deceased), viz. Messrs. John Evans, Tynddol, and Cadwaladr Williams, Y Fach Ddeiliog. The soil under the stones was found to be free of stones and different from that of the field, which is shaly.

At present all that marks the spot is a very slight depression in the field a few yards from the s. hedge, about midway between its extremities.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. In the *Inventory* of Denbighshire Ancient Monuments (No. 447, p. 127) it is stated that there stood in Y Ddol until about 1900 "what appears to have been an enormous horse-shoe shaped mass of stones, some standing upright, with a central arrangement of slabs that would seem to have been a rifled cave . . ." The tenant of Dolpennau, who removed the stones, assured the writer in 1917, both in an interview and in a letter (Nov. 13), that he saw nothing like a "central arrangement of slabs."

It is also stated in the *Inventory* (No. 446, p. 127) that in 1911 "the remains of a cairn which had been opened were entirely cleared away from a meadow about 200 yards from the farm of Dolpennau. The stones to the amount of 60 loads were used for mending the high road."

Mr. Roberts, the tenant, has no knowledge of the above. The only place, according to him, from where stones for the road were carted was the pavement in "Y Ddol."

STONE-REMAINS : DOLPENNAU.

Whilst making a grave for a dead animal in 1912 Mr. R. Roberts, of Dolpennau, came, at the depth of about a yard, to a number of stones—said to be 8—arranged in such a way as to enclose a space in the shape of a Greek Cross. The arms of the cross (vertical and horizontal) measured a yard and a half in length, and about a yard in breadth. The stones, which formed a level surface, were "granite." Mr. Roberts left them undisturbed and filled up the hole. The stones were found in Cae Cefntŷ, i.e. the field behind the house of Dolpennau on a bit of a slope not far from the River Ceirw.

These particulars were obtained from Mr. R. Roberts, Dolpennau, in 1917.

STONE HAMMER OR MACE-HEAD : MAESMOR.

DISCOVERY. This was found by a labourer in grubbing up a wood on the Maesmor Estate about the year 1840. The exact spot is not known.

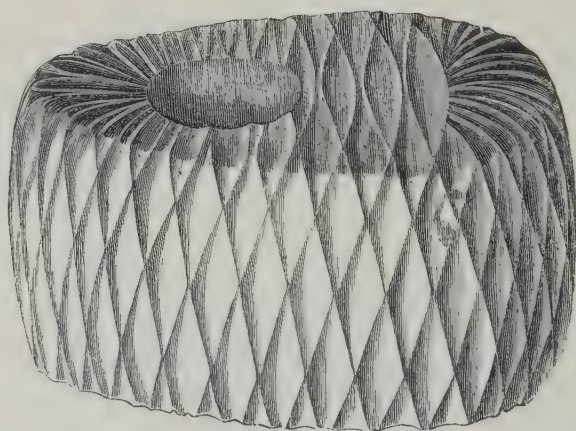


FIG. 90—MACE-HEAD, MAESMOR.

DESCRIPTION. Its material is a "dusky white chalcedony, and of such extreme hardness that it is impossible to make the slightest scratch on it with a penknife." It is ornamented with intersecting lines forming diamond patterns. "It measures 3 inches in greatest length, 2 inches in breadth at the broader end, in a line parallel to the

haft-hole, and $1\frac{3}{4}$ in. at the other, while the greatest thickness is 2 in. in the middle of the lower part. The haft-hole, $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch in diameter, is pierced through from one flat face to the other, just above the middle of the length. It has been bored from both sides, but so accurately that the junction of the two borings is scarcely perceptible. The weight of the implement is $10\frac{1}{2}$ ounces."

SUBSEQUENT HISTORY. In 1859 the mace-head became the property of the late Rev. E. L. Barnwell, who, in 1864, presented it to the Scottish National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh, where it remains. There is a cast in the British Museum (seen May 15, 1922).

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1860, pp. 307-9; *Arch. Journal*, 1862, xix, 92; *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, 1909, p. 377; *Inventory*, No. 457, p. 128.]

ROMAN COINS : BRYNDEDWYDD.

DISCOVERY. A hoard of Roman coins was unearthed about the year 1862 in a meadow (gweirglodd), called Gwaun-yr-allt, belonging to Bryndedwydd, Maerdy. The field in question is the second to the N.E. of the cottage called Penucha, on the right-hand side of the road leading to Bettws Gwerfil Goch.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxii, N.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 59' 34''$; long. $3^{\circ} 27' 35''$.]

The coins, which were in an earthenware vessel, were found by the late John Roberts, of Cablyd (who worked at Bryndedwydd), while cutting a drain in the above-mentioned field. The pick crashed into the pot, thus exposing its contents. Having filled the tin box in which he carried his food, Roberts went home in great glee. Afterwards he distributed a number to his friends. Mr. Edward Arthur, stepson of the finder, now living at Penucha, later came across some in the soil, since lost sight of. Mr. W. Lloyd, of Llwyn-ileiaf, who well remembers the discovery, is of opinion that more might be found in the spot if a search was made. The site is not in Merionethshire, as assumed in the Royal Commissioners' *Inventory* of the Ancient Monuments of that County (No. 16, p. 7).

SUBSEQUENT HISTORY. About a hundred of the coins passed into the hands of Mr. J. Jones, bailiff and caretaker of Bryndedwydd, who subsequently died at the London residence of Mr. Robert Roberts, owner of Bryndedwydd. Eventually the coins came into the possession of Mrs. Emily Wynne Spicer (died 1920), Bryntirion, 104, West Hill, Putney, daughter of Mr. R. Roberts. Mrs. Spicer sent the writer, in November, 1916, thirty specimens to examine (see *Description* below). Eight of these (Nos. 6, 9, 20, 22, 23, 27, 29, 30) she gave him, and which he has presented to the St. Asaph Cathedral Library.* A considerable number of the coins, together with the vessel (or rather fragments of it) containing them, were bought from the finder by Captain R. Mascie Taylor, then living at Corwen. In 1899 the coins, to the number of 109, were presented by him to the Grosvenor Museum,

* Her son, Mr. J. Wynne Spicer, gave the remainder (about 100) to the Cathedral in Aug., 1929.

Chester, where they were examined by the writer on Oct. 30, 1922. These comprise :—

- 1 Theodora (305–6).
- 24 Constantine I (307–37).
- 17 Constantine II (337–40).
- 7 Constans (337–50).
- 9 Constantius II (337–361).
- 18 “Constantinopolis.”
- 22 “Urbs Roma.”
- 11 Illegible.

Other persons who possessed examples were Mr. Ed. Thomas, Wenallt (died 1924), J. Williams, Glan-llyn, Mrs. Catherine Roberts, Ty-canol (died 1918), and Mr. W. Roberts, Bronheulog.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES. 1. In the *Archaeological Journal* for 1863 (vol. xx, p. 192), it is stated that Mr. Thomas Price, of Rhug, subsequently (1868–1901) Vicar of Prestatyn, sent by Mr. W. W. E. Wynne, M.P., specimens of the coins to an exhibition of Antiquities and Works of Art held in March of that year at the Archaeological Institute, London. The pieces exhibited are described as small brasses of Constantine, one being of the usual type—Urbs Roma, etc.

2. An account of the discovery is given by the Rev. E. L. Barnwell in *Arch. Camb.* for 1863, p. 271. Having stated where the coins were found, Mr. Barnwell continues : “The deposit was discovered about a foot below the present surface ; but about two years previously a high earthen bank had been removed from the same place, so that they must have been buried under the bank. . . . The number of coins is said to have been about seventeen hundred and were, without exception, as far as has been ascertained, third brass of the latter part of the reigns of Constantine and his son, and all of the ordinary types. They were enclosed in an earthen vessel, which was broken to pieces by the natives, but a portion was secured by Captain Taylor, of Colomendy, Corwen, who has kindly furnished these particulars. He states that the pottery is undoubtedly Roman ware, though not of a very superior kind.”

What became of the fragment or fragments possessed by Capt. Taylor is not known.

DESCRIPTION OF COINS EXAMINED.

- 1–6. Obverse : Helmeted head of Constantine, to left.
Legend : CONSTANTINOPOLIS.
Reverse : Figure of Victory armed with spear and shield.
Exerque : 1 and 2—TRP ; 3—PLG ; 4, 5 and 6 — ?
- 7–9. Ob. : Laureated head, to right.
Leg. : FL IVL CONSTANTIVS NOB C.
Rev. : Two standards flanked by two soldiers.
Leg. : GLORIA EXERCITVS.
Ex. : 7 and 8—PLG ; 9—TRP.

- 10-14. Ob. : Laureated head of Constantine, to right.
 Leg. : CONSTANTINVS MAX AVG.
 Rev. : Same as 7-9.
 Ex. : 10-13—P CONST ; 14—TR. P.
- 15-17. Ob. : Laureated head of Helena (mother of Constantine), to right.
 Leg. : FL[avia] IVL[ia] HELENA.
 Rev. : Peace with palm branch in her right hand and spear in left.
 Leg. : PAX PUBLICA.
 Ex. : 15 and 16—TRP ; 17—TRS.
- 18-20. Ob. : Laur. head of Constantinus, to right.
 Leg. : CONSTANTINVS IVN[ior] NOB[ilis] C[aesar].
 Rev. : Same as 7-9.
 Ex. : 18—PLG (crescent and star) ; 19—TRP ? ; 20—TRS.
- 21-23. Ob. : Helm. head, to left.
 Leg. : URBS ROMA.
 Rev. : Romulus and Remus suckled by the wolf.
 Ex. : 21—TRP ; 22 and 23—TRS.
- 24, 25. Ob. : Laur. head of Constans, to right.
 Leg. : CONSTANS P[ius] F[idelis] AVG.
 Rev. : Labarum flanked by 2 soldiers.
 Leg. : GLORIA EXERCITVS.
 Ex. : 24— ? ; 25—SARL.
26. Ob. : Laur. head of Constans, to right.
 Leg. : CONSTANS P F AVG.
 Rev. : Two Victories facing each other.
 Leg. : VICTORIAE DD AVGG Q NN (Dominorum Augustorum quinque nostrorum).
 Ex. : TRS.
- 27, 28. Ob. : Laur. head of Theodora, 2nd wife of Constantius Chlorus (step mother of Constantine the Great), to right.
 Leg. : FL MAX[imiana] THEODORAE AVG.
 Rev. : Figure of Pietas holding a child.
 Leg. : PIETAS ROMANA.
 Ex. : 27—TRP ; 28—TRS.
29. Ob. : Laur. head of Constantius II (323-61).
 Leg. : CONSTANTIVS P F AVG.
 Rev. : Two soldiers flanking the Labarum.
 Leg. : GLORIA EXERCITVS.
30. Ob. : Laur. head of Constantius, to right.
 Leg. : FL IVL CONSTANTIVS NOB C.
 Rev. : Labarum flanked by two soldiers.
 Leg. : GLORIA EXERCITVS.
 Ex. : TRS.

AUTHORITY. For the information given above *re* discovery, etc., I am indebted to Messrs. G. H. Humphreys, Maerdy Mill (son-in-law of finder), Ed. Arthur, J. Bellis, Corwen, J. Rowlands, Llanuwchllyn.

QUERN : TYDDYN ELI.

PROVENANCE. About 1913 a hand millstone was found in a field bearing the name of Brynygroes, belonging to Tyddyn Eli. The field is the next but one to the house on the E. The stone was discovered by Urias Jones Hughes, of Glan-y-dwr, while ploughing. Tyddyn Eli is about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of Llangwm village.

DESCRIPTION. An upper-stone, it is 18 in. in diameter and about 5 in. thick near the edge. There is a hole in the centre about $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter. In appearance the stone resembles cement concrete.

PRESENT LOCATION. It is at present in the possession of Mr. T. E. Hughes, of the Post Office, Llangwm, on whose farm, and by whose servant, it was unearthed.

Seen Sept., 1917.

QUERN : RECTORY.

PROVENANCE. This was discovered in 1905 by the then Rector of the parish, the Rev. D. Davies, subsequently incumbent of Glan Conway and Llanfair D.C., in the hedge of a field called Hirdir. The land on either side of the hedge, which is composed of soil and stones, then belonged to the Benefice.

DESCRIPTION. A fragment—about half—of the upper-stone of a small quern, it measures about 10 in. in diameter. The stone of which it is formed is a "granite" of a reddish colour. The hole in the centre, which is 2 in. across, has been worn until it is quite smooth.

DEPOSITORY. It is preserved at the Rectory.

Seen Sept., 1917.

QUERN STONE : MAESMOR.

In the grounds of Maesmor, $2\frac{3}{4}$ m. E. of Llangwm Church and near Maerdy, is a nether quern stone, measuring 20 by 19 in. in diameter and $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. deep, with a hole in the centre from 3 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. across. It is made of a coarse stone.

Its history is not known.

Seen Oct. 26, 1921.

LLANNEFYDD.

OSSIFEROUS CAVE : BRASGYLL.

SITE. This cave is situated about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. E.N.E. of Llannefydd Church, and $\frac{1}{2}$ m. W.N.W. of Y Bont Newydd, in a narrow gorge, called Nant y Graig, which runs down to the River Elwy. The exact position is in the perpendicular rock on the E. side of the stream 10 yds. or so above its bed, a little over 100 yds. S.S.W. of Brasgyll Cottages and about 75 yds. S.S.W. of Fron Hill. The cave, which is a fine one, penetrates about 12 yds. into the limestone rock. In the floor are evident signs of digging.

[6 in. O.S. sheet viii, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 13' 45''$; long. $3^{\circ} 29' 21''$.]

EXPLORATION. Prof. W. Boyd Dawkins (died 1929) in his book *Cave Hunting* (v., 160) gives the following account of the exploration undertaken in 1871 by Mrs. Williams Wynn, Plas yn Cefn (died Jan., 1926), and Col. C. S. Mainwaring, Galltfaenan (died 1920). The cave, which he calls "Brysgill Cave," "furnished evidence of the occupation of man, probably of the Neolithic age. From a dark layer composed of loam, black with fragments of charcoal, a flint arrow-head, a core, a flake, and broken bones of the horse, *Bos longifrons*, goat, and dog were obtained, as well as a few human bones which had not been broken by design."

Cave visited Feb. 22, 1927.

TUMULI : MOEL FODIAR.

SITE. These, two in number, stand on the summit, that is, the n.w. part of the ridge of Moel Fodiar (altitude, 1,120 ft.), about 35 paces from each other, that is, from top to top. Moel Fodiar is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. s. of Llanfeydd village. The part of the hill on which the tumuli stand is common land.

[6 in. O.S. sheet viii, s.w. : (1) lat. $53^{\circ} 11' 55.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 31' 47''$; (2) lat. $53^{\circ} 11' 55.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 31' 49''$.]

DESCRIPTION. These tumuli, which are somewhat small, lie n.w. and s.e.

1. The s.e. one, which is the larger of the two, is about 55 paces in circumference. Its height varies from about $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 ft. according to the side from which it is viewed. It has been disturbed at the apex and on the w. side. In its composition are contained many stones of different sizes.

2. The other tumulus is about 46 paces in circumference and about $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. It is made of mountain soil and covered with heather. At the top, which has been somewhat flattened, is a small bowl-shaped depression about a foot deep. About 1904 O. Griffiths, of Foel Bach, dug a hole 2 ft. deep at the centre but saw nothing. A short time previously T. Roberts, of Foel Fawr, found at that spot bones which he believed were human on cutting a turf for a fence which he was making close by.

Seen June 4, 1918, and Sept. 16, 1926.

CAIRN-SITE : Y GARNEDD.

REFERENCE. In the *Parochialia* (Ed. Lhuyd, 1699), pt. i, p. 153, the following statement appears :—" Mae Karnedh yn hal y Bryn lhe chladhwyd [corrected in pt. ii, p. 11, into "lhadhwyd"] gwr a saeth " (" There is a carnedd in Talybryn where a man was buried [killed=lhadhwyd] with an arrow ").

SITE. A house bearing the name " Garnedd " is situated about 1 m. to the s.e. of Llanfeydd village, in the township of Talybryn and about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the s. of Talybryn farmhouse. According to tradition handed down in the family of Bryn Isa Farm, the cairn stood in an uncultivated piece of ground about 200 yds. long and

50 yds. broad at the widest part in the middle, some 100 yds. E. of Garnedd house. Mr. John Jones, of Bryn Isa, who died in February, 1925, aged 81, informed his sons, who now live at the farm, that the site was just to the E. of the old quarry which occupies the W. half of the waste patch, opposite the gate to the field on the N. No signs of a cairn could be detected at this spot or elsewhere when visited, but the whole patch was so overgrown with vegetation that it was impossible to examine it properly. The waste piece of ground is approached from the main road from Llanefydd to Henllan by an old lane which leads in an E.S.E. direction a few yards to the S.E. of the turning to Bryn Isa.

[6 in. O.S. sheet viii, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 12' 53''$; long. $3^{\circ} 30' 5''$.]

FOLK-LORE. A local story says that the man buried in the cairn was a giant who was shot with an arrow on this spot by another giant, who stood watching him in a gap in the elevated ground to the E.N.E. some 400 yds. away (120 yds. or so to the N.E. of Bryn-y-ffynnon, at the cross roads).

Visited June 23, 1927.

BRYN Y BEDD : CORS-Y-NANT.

The site here referred to, Bryn y Bedd (Hill of the Grave), is a small mound covered with gorse and heather, about 25 paces in circumference, situated in a moor, called Cors-y-Nant, belonging to Nant Farm, about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N. of the latter and a mile S.E. of Llanefydd Church.

The writer was informed May 14, 1918, by Mr. J. Ffoulkes, of Rhwng-y-ddwy-ffordd, that when he first remembered the site a heap of stones stood on it. He and several others, about the year 1870, carried away the stones for walls and fences. Nothing of interest was found. Tradition said that a suicide from Berain was buried there.

MAES CARNEDDAU : BRON HAUL.

SITE. About $\frac{1}{4}$ m. to the S.W. of Henllan Parish Church is a field called Maes Carneddau. It is the next to the meadow through which a stream runs. Formerly it belonged to Bron Haul farm. Now it is the property of the County Council. Once upon a time there was, it is said, a carnedd in this field. At present, however, no trace of the same is visible.

TRADITION. A story is related locally to the effect that a young woman, who was a servant at Tywysog, was murdered and buried by her suitor in the field in question—Maes Carneddau—and that a cairn was raised over her grave. Part of the field is called Acer y Forwyn (The Acre of the Maid). The murderer is said to have been hanged at Bryn Llwyfanen, Henllan.

POSSIBLE REFERENCE. In the *Parochialia*, 1699 (i, 104), the following entry appears under Henllan :—" Mae Karnedh o gerrig ar y fordh i'r eivied Lhe Lhadhwyd gwr o vewn y 40 mhlynnedh

ymma" ("There is a cairn of stones on the way to Ereiviat where a man was killed within the last 40 years"). Maes Carneddau is within $\frac{1}{4}$ m. of the road from Henllan to Ereiviat.

Field visited Jan. 6, 1928. Particulars obtained from Mr. Ebenezer Davies, Central Stores, Henllan.

CAMP: MYNYDD Y GAER.

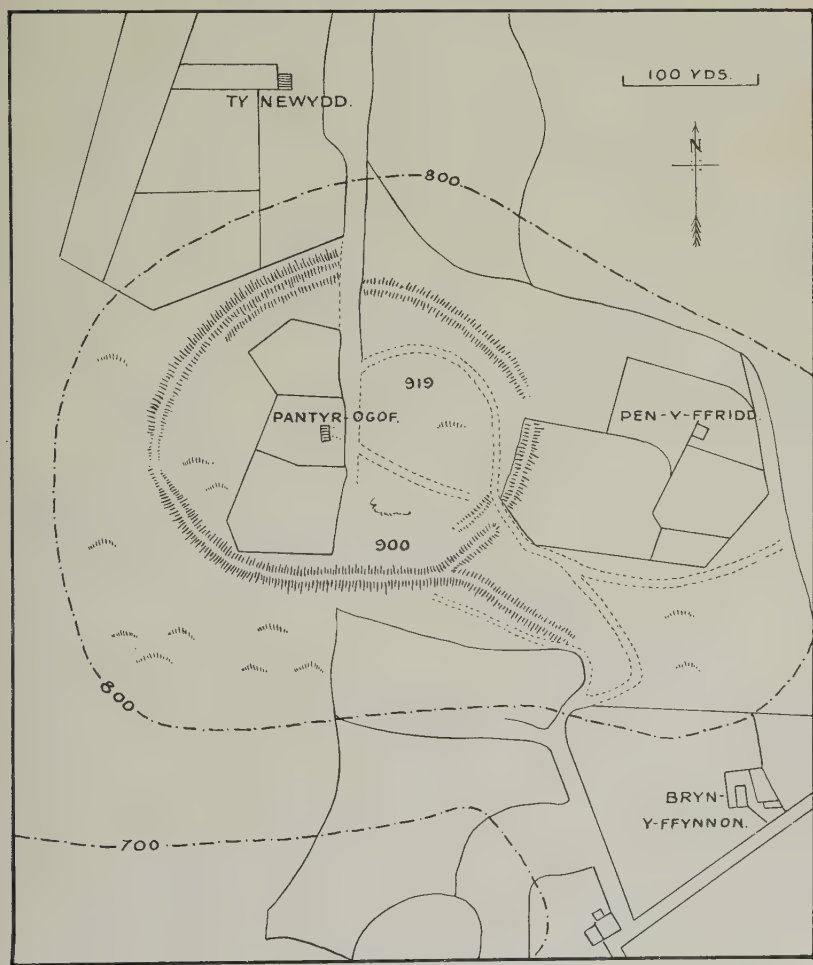


FIG. 91—MYNYDD-Y-GAER CAMP.

SITE. This camp is situated on the summit of a hill from 400 to 500 ft. above the surrounding country and 900 ft. above sea level, nearly 1 m. N.W. of the parish church of Llanefydd.

[6 in. O.S. sheet viii, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 13' 54''$ – $14' 2''$; long. $3^{\circ} 32' 14''$ – $24''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The camp occupies the whole of the crown of the hill and covers an area of about 10 acres. At present the defences consist of a fosse with a bank on the outside—a counterscarp.

Originally there was a strong rampart of stones inside the fosse, about 7 to 10 yds. from it, on more elevated ground. Distinct traces of this are noticeable all the way round the camp in the shape of a thick layer of small stones, except on the E. side. Mr. John Ffoulkes, of Rhwng-y-ddwy-ffordd (80 in 1920), told the writer that he remembered portions of this rampart, and he often heard his grandmother (Elizabeth Jones, of Tyddyn Isaf, who died about 1860) say that it was more or less intact in her younger days, before the stones were removed for building purposes. According to Ffoulkes this rampart was a built wall of great thickness. Unmistakable evidence of despoilment still remains in several places.

To give a detailed account of the present condition of the outer defences—the fosse and counterscarp. On the S. and S.W. sides they are fairly strong, the ditch being cut in the rock. At the W. corner, where the hill is steepest, the ditch, which is here also hewn in the bare rock, is shallow and at present silted up. After passing the W. corner defences are almost non-existent for 25 or 30 yds. Farther on, that is, on the N.W. side, they are fairly strong, the ditch being once more for some distance hewn in the rock. Strange to say, the defences on the N.N.E., where access to the camp is easy, are weak—at present at all events. On the E. side they have been much tampered with by the construction of a modern fence (clawdd).

It would seem that the principal entrance to the camp was at the S.E. corner, though its details at present are not very clear. The approach to it, however, is well defined. Opposite the entrance, inside the camp, at a distance of about 20 paces, is a bank with a ditch on the inside, extending for about 60 paces. This was no doubt intended as additional protection to the entrance.

There is another entrance into the interior on the N. side. This is also in all probability original. Here it is noticeable that the defences on either side are not in a line, those on the E. being several yards farther in. There seems to be some indication that the stone rampart on the W. side curved inwards here. This point, however, can be settled only by excavation. A modern track leading southwards from this entrance divides the enclosed area into two nearly equal parts. The eastern half is rocky and barren, while the western half contains three small fields and the ruins of a house that bore the name of Pant yr Ogof.

On the S. side the fosse and counterscarp are continued for a distance of about 150 yds. beyond the camp in an easterly direction, possibly as an out-work to protect the approach to the entrance, though it is somewhat far from the latter and the track leading to it.

Just outside the ditch on the E. side, not far from the N.E. entrance, is a spring of water.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES. In the *Parochialia*, i, p. 153, the following reference to the camp occurs :—"Ar le a elwir Pen y Gaer y mae clawdh crwn o gerrig a chlawdh aralh o'i amgylch yn ghyloch hanner mildhir o gwmpas" ("At a place called Pen y Gaer there is a circular bank of stones, and another bank around it about half a mile

in circumference"). In *Arch. Camb.* it is twice alluded to, viz. in 1850 (p. 186), by Mr. Wynne Ffoulkes as "a pentagonal encampment of very similar construction to Moel Gaer" (Clwydian Range), and in 1855 (p. 262) by the Rev. H. Longueville Jones (List of Denbighshire Camps) as "a fortified summit of a lofty hill, $1\frac{1}{4}$ mls N.W. from Llannefydd. A remarkable spot, from the form of the work being nearly a regular pentagon."

No mention of the camp is made in the *Tours* of Pennant and Fenton, or in the *Topographical Dictionary* of S. Lewis. It is omitted also in the *Inventory* of the Ancient Monuments Commissioners.

NAME. The present name of the hill is Mynydd y Gaer (The Mountain of the Fort). Ed. Lhuyd calls it Pen y Gaer. In a short list of "Kaereu, etc.," in Pen. MS. 267 (fol. 39), the fort is referred to as "Kaer Gadfael ne Dingadfael yn ymyl L. Nefyd." The name Dinas, or Din Cadfel, survives as the name of the township in which the fort is situated. We may compare Dinarth, the township in which Bryn Euryn fort, Colwyn Bay, is situated, and Dinhengryn, that in which the Castell Cawr camp, Abergele, lies. Cadfel is derived either from *cad* + *mael* (Catamaglos), and represents "Cadfael," or from *cad* + *wal* (Catagual), and is a modification of "Cadwal, Cadfal," cf. "Cynwal and Cynfal" (Congual). According to the Genealogies in the Harleian MS. 3859, No. iii (see "Y Cymmodor," vol. ix [1888], p. 172) Catgual was a descendant of Cunedda Wledig.

Visited Ap., 1913, Mch., 1918, and Nov. 30, 1920.

EARTHWORK : MOEL Y CANWR.

SITE. This site is a mile s.s.w. of Llannefydd Church, on an enclosed piece of moor called Moel-y-Canwr, belonging to Blaen Nant Farm (owner, Mr. Lewis Evans, St. Asaph).

[6 in. O.S. sheet viii, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 12' 26-30''$; long. $3^{\circ} 31' 49-54''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The earthwork in question consists of a portion, possibly about half, of the enclosing bank of an area, presumably oval in shape. The length of the bank now remaining is about 250 yds. There is a ditch on the outside and about the middle is a gap. In the fields on either side, which have been cultivated for years, almost all traces of the earthwork have disappeared.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. It is stated in the *Parochialia* (Ed. Lhuyd, 1699, pt. i, p. 153), after a brief description of the camp on Mynydd-y-Gaer, that there was "another work on the Mountain of the Llan" ("Gwaith arall ar fynydh y Lhan"). The reference is no doubt to the entrenchment just described. "Mynydh y Llan" is not a name that is used now, but there is every reason to believe that it was formerly applied to the high ground to the s.w. of the village. In the *Parochialia* (l.c.) it is mentioned as one of the "Commons" of Llannefydd Parish, and the River Caeren, which enters the Elwy a mile lower down than the Aled, is said (p. 154) to rise in "mynydh y lhan."

Visited May 14, 1918.

TRENCH AND BANK : MYNYDD Y GYRT.

On the slope of Mynydd y Gyrt, starting 300 yds. to the E.N.E. of the house of Gofer, which stands about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. w.s.w. of the village of Llanefydd, is a trench, cut for the most part in the shaly rock, which is continued intermittently for a quarter of a mile or so in an E.S.E. direction up the slope and afterwards on the flat top. The material removed from the trench is piled up in a bank on the lower (s.) side, the distance from the bottom of the trench to the crest of the bank being 5 or 6 ft. There is no local tradition as to the origin of the work, and no date or purpose can be assigned to it.

[6 in. O.S. sheet vii, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 12' 11-17''$; long. $3^{\circ} 32' 48''-33' 6''$.]

Seen June 23, 1927.

NAID Y CAWR A'R GAWRES : TANYGAER.

SITE. "Naid y Cawr a'r Gawres"—"The Leap of the Giant and Giantess"—are two hollows in the fields, Ffridd Uchaf and Ffridd Isaf, belonging to Tanygaer, a farm nearly $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W. of Llanefydd Parish Church. The fields in question are next but one to the mountain whereon the gaer or camp stands, and a little lower down than Tynewydd.

FOLK-LORE. Legend has it that a giant and his wife jumped to the fields above mentioned from the top of Mynydd y Gaer, the giantess into Ffridd Uchaf and the giant into Ffridd Isaf, causing the depression in either field by their impact with the ground.

Authority—Elias Jones, Pont-y-ddol (died 1922), and J. Ffoulkes, Rhwng-y-ddwy-ffordd.

MOUND : HAFOD.

SITE. This mound is situated about 100 yds. to the S.E. of the homestead of Hafod farm, which is 2 m. S.E. of Llanefydd Church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet viii, S.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 12' 5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 29' 20''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The mound, which is slightly oval, is imposing in appearance, and measures about 140 paces in circumference and 10 ft. or more in height. It is covered with turf. For the benefit of the writer the tenant, Mr. J. Evans, had a hole 2 ft. deep dug at the summit on Jan. 17, 1927. The material of which it is composed was found to be shaly stones of small size mixed with soil. There is no reason to think the mound is artificial.

MOUND : FFYNHONNAU.

About 230 yds. to the N.W. of the farmstead of Ffynhonnau in the N. angle of the field to the right of the road leading towards Plas Harry is a large mound composed of soil and covered with turf, measuring about 120 paces in circumference and $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. It resembles a tumulus, but may be natural. Ffynhonnau is 1 m. W. of Llanefydd village.

[6 in. O.S. sheet vii, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 13' 21''$; long. $3^{\circ} 33' 1''$.]

Seen Jan. 6, 1927.

FRAGMENT OF STONE AXE: Y FOEL BACH.

DISCOVERY. This was found in January, 1927, by Mr. Owen Griffith, of Y Foel Bach, while picking stones, after harrowing, in the third field to the N.W. of the house. Elevation: above contour line 1,000.

[6 in. O.S. sheet viii, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 11' 58''$; long. $3^{\circ} 32' 2''$.]



FIG. 92—FRAGMENT OF STONE AXE, Y FOEL BACH.

DESCRIPTION. Only about a third of the celt is left. The cutting edge, with the exception of a little chipping on one side, is intact. The rest is very badly damaged. The original length of the implement would seem to have been about 6 in. The breadth across the cutting edge is slightly over $2\frac{1}{2}$ in., and the thickness (2 in. from edge) $\frac{1}{2}$ in. The surface was well polished. The stone is the Graig Lwyd rock, Penmaenmawr (enstatite diorite porphyry).

PRESENT LOCATION. Mr. Owen Griffith presented the axe in 1928 to the Rev. D. J. C. Jones, Vicar of Llanefydd, who intends depositing it with other objects in a show case in the church.

Seen July 10, 1928.

STONE IMPLEMENT: Y FOEL BACH.

In the field in which the fragment of a stone axe (just described) was discovered, Mr. O. Griffith picked up the same day an implement made of common opal (?), $3\frac{3}{8}$ in. long, $\frac{7}{8}$ in. wide, and $\frac{3}{4}$ in. deep. It

bears evident signs of having been chipped by man, but for what purpose it was used is not known. Mr. Griffith gave the stone to the Vicar of Llannefydd, who will exhibit it in a show case in the church.

Seen July 10, 1928.

LARGE STONE : TY CANOL.

SITE. Formerly this stone—a boulder about 2 yds. long and about half-a-ton—lay partly embedded in the ground in the middle of a field called Cae Garreg, to the west of the farmhouse of Tycanol to which it belongs. About 1900 it was removed by Messrs. David Williams, Dolben, and Hugh Roberts, Berth Ewig, three horses being employed, to the lower hedge of the field, where it now lies.

FOLK-LORE. Tradition has it that people formerly used to hide their treasures under this stone. Authority—Mr. John Ffoulkes, Rhwng-y-ddwy-ffordd, Llannefydd.

Seen May 14, 1918.

SPINDLE WHORLS : BRYNFFYNNON.

Two stone spindle whorls were picked up in 1922 by Mr. Edward Douglas, of Brynffynnon, while thinning turnips in the upper part of the field to the E. of the garden, and adjoining the road to Tanygraig.

One is quite round, measuring $1\frac{3}{8}$ in. in diameter and $\frac{1}{4}$ in. in thickness. The other, which is slightly irregular in shape, is of about the same diameter, but $\frac{3}{8}$ in. in thickness, and with a smaller perforation $\frac{9}{16}$ in. across.

They are retained by the finder.

Particulars supplied by the Rev. J. Bevan Jones, Vicar of Llannefydd, April 8, 1924.

LLANRHAIADR-YM-MOCHNANT.

CAIRN : AFON DISGYNFA.

SITE. This is situated about 300 yds. w.n.w. of the Pistyll Rhaiadr Waterfall, on the gentle slope to the N. of the river Afon Disgynfa, and close to the footpath.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xli, s.w. : lat. $52^{\circ} 51' 23''$; long. $3^{\circ} 22' 51''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The circumference of the cairn is 46 paces, and the height 4 ft. The stones are of different sizes. A hole has been made in the centre. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

Seen May 5, 1927.

CAIRN : MOEL SYCH.

SITE. This stands on the highest point of Moel Sych (altitude, 2,713 ft.) on the boundary line between the counties of Denbigh and Merioneth. Moel Sych is a little over 5 m. in a direct line n.w. of Llanrhaiadr village.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xli, n.w. : lat. $52^{\circ} 52' 31.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 23' 15''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The cairn is composed of fairly large stones. Now it is partly covered with turf. The circumference is about 70 paces, and the present reduced height $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. A modern pile of stones has been raised on the summit.

Seen May 5, 1927.

CAIRN : CRAIG BERWYN.

SITE. This is situated on the brink of a formidable precipice about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. of the summit of Moel Sych, and 1,000 ft. s. of that of Cader Berwyn.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xli, N.W. : lat. $52^{\circ} 52' 51.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 22' 46''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The stones of this cairn, which is about 50 paces in circumference and 4 ft. in height, are of various sizes—small and fairly large. It has been dug into at the centre and elsewhere. A few yards to the N.W. is a circular patch of stones resembling the remains of a small cairn. Elevation : above contour line 2,500.

Seen May 5, 1927.

TUMULUS (?) : CADER BERWYN.

SITE. Cader Berwyn is a height in the Berwyn mountains about $5\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W. of Llanrhaiadr, and between $\frac{1}{2}$ m. and $\frac{3}{4}$ m. N.N.E. of Moel Sych. The mound is on the summit (altitude, 1,713 ft.).

[6 in. O.S. sheet xli, N.W. : lat. $52^{\circ} 53' 1''$; long. $3^{\circ} 22' 45''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This is composed of stones and mountain soil. Its circumference may be about 75 paces and its height 8 ft. It is undisturbed. Several stones containing quartz are visible on the surface. Possibly this is a natural mound. On the top is a modern pile of stones.

Seen May 5, 1927.

CAIRN : GWERNFEIFOD.

SITE. The situation of this is on the heath about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. in a straight line to the N.N.E. of Gwernfeifod farmstead, which is $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W. of Llanrhaiadr village.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xli, S.W. : lat. $52^{\circ} 51' 19''$; long. $3^{\circ} 20' 31''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The cairn, which is about 40 paces in circumference, has been disturbed and robbed of stones. Its present height is $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. In the centre are exposed two stone slabs which formed parts of the opposite sides of a cist 2 ft. wide. The stone on the W. side is $4\frac{1}{2}$ ft. long. The original length of the cist would seem to have been $5\frac{1}{2}$ ft. or 6 ft. The site, like the surrounding ground, is covered with heather. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

Seen Nov. 1, 1927.

CAIRN : Y GARNEDD WEN.

SITE. This stands on the boundary line between the parishes of Llansilin (Civil) and Llanrhaiadr, 2 m. s.w. of Llanarmon D.C., on the summit of the hill known as Garneddwen (1,628 ft.).

[6 in. O.S. sheet xli, s.e. : lat. $52^{\circ} 52' 17''$; long. $3^{\circ} 17' 7''$]

DESCRIPTION. The cairn has been much disturbed, holes having been dug into it all over, and large quantities of stone carried away. Its present dimensions are : circumference, 80 paces ; height, 3 ft. It is composed of smallish fragments of black and white felspar rock, which is common in the district, outcrops of it appearing here and there on the hill. Before it was tampered with this "Garneddwen" — "White Cairn" — must have presented a striking appearance.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. It is marked "Cairn" on the original 1-in. Ordnance map, and the Rev. H. Longueville Jones refers to it as a "tumulus or beacon station" in his list of Denbighshire "Tumuli, Carneddau, etc.," in *Arch. Camb.* for 1855, p. 263. Mr. T. W. Hancock, in *Mont. Collections* (iv, 237), also states that on the summit of Garnedd Wen "there is a cairn of white stones, the base of which is sixty yards in circumference." In the Denbighshire *Inventory of Ancient Monuments* (1914), No. 499, p. 140, the following statement is made with reference to the site :—"No traces of a cairn could now be discovered" !

Seen July 1, 1924.

TUMULUS : Y FOEL DDU.

SITE. This, like the cairn on Garnedd Wen, stands on or near the boundary line between the parishes of Llansilin and Llanrhaiadr, a little over $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the n.w. of the cairn referred to, on the summit of Foel Ddu.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xli, n.e. : lat. $52^{\circ} 53' 36''$; long. $3^{\circ} 17' 48''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The bulk of the soil originally forming the tumulus has disappeared. The circumference is about 52 paces, and the present height, on the n. side, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. There is a hole near the centre. It is erected on the edge of a sharp declivity (s.w.). Elevation : above contour line 1,750.

Seen July 1, 1924.

CAIRN : CARNEDD CAECRIN, GWERNFEIFOD.

REFERENCE. The following account of this cairn appears in *Montgomeryshire Collections*, vol. iv (1871), pp. 237, 238, in a paper by Mr. T. W. Hancock :—"Carnedd Caecrin. This is distant about fifty yards from the old bridle trackway between Gwernfeifod and Maengwynedd. It is circular and measures fifty yards in circumference at its base. It has been opened in its centre, and a large quantity of its stones have been removed for walling purposes on the mountain. The height within the memory of many persons now living was about nine feet."

SITE. The name is now unknown, and the site has not been identified.

Search made Nov. 1, 1927.

TUMULUS: MAES MOCHNANT ISAF.

REFERENCE. Fenton (*Tours*, ed. J. Fisher, 1917, p. 81) writes : " August 26 [1808] . . . In the other Field a little more to the Eastward [of the field in which stands the Maes Mochnant Maenhir] I was directed by the farmer to look at a spot where they had dug up a great quantity of stones, being no other than a fine Tumulus, now levelled to within a foot of the surrounding Ground."

PRESENT CONDITION. In the field to the E. of Erw'r Garreg, the field in which the Maenhir stands, near the w. hedge, is still to be seen a much worn-down tumulus about 70 paces in circumference, and 1 or $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. The name of the field is Cae'r Efel Mawr. Mr. Charles Humphreys, of Maes Mochnant Isaf, to which farm the field belongs, informed the writer, Nov. 7, 1922, that stones are still found in the mound when it is ploughed.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xliii, s.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 48' 51''$; long. $3^{\circ} 16' 45''$.]

Seen Nov. 7, 1922, and May 4, 1927.

ALLEGED CROMLECH: PANT-Y-GARREG-FAWR.

Pant-y-garreg-fawr is the name of a field on the other side of the road from Tyn-y-wern farmhouse, about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. s.E. of the Llanrhiaidr waterfall. On the w. side of this field on the slope are two large heaps of stone one above the other. (a) The lower of the two consists of five stones, three of which are huge, the largest measuring 12 by 6 by 3 ft., together with a quantity of small stones. (b) The other heap, which is more to the N., is composed of a very large piece of rock, partly covered by piles of stones of all sizes.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xli, s.w. : lat. $52^{\circ} 50' 54''$; long. $3^{\circ} 21' 30''$.]

The Commissioners on Ancient Monuments (*Inventory*, No. 486, p. 136) have pronounced these heaps to be the remains of overthrown cromlechs. The present writer, who visited the spot on Sept. 6, 1916, totally dissents from the above view and maintains that the large stones are in their natural position, whilst the small ones, especially in the case of the upper heap, have been collected from the surface of the field.

Nearer the waterfall, close to the stream, but in Montgomeryshire, are three other enormous deposits of rock, known as " Baich y Cawr," " Baich y Gawres " (The Giant and Giantess' load), and " Ffedogaid y Forwyn " (The Maid's Apronful).

Visited Sept. 6, 1916.

CAMP: BRYN DINAS.

SITE. The Bryn Dinas, or Llwyn Bryn Dinas, Camp crowns the summit of a high hill (altitude, 888) immediately to the N. of the road to Llanrhaiadr village from Llangedwyn, a mile from the latter place. The hill belongs to the farm of Tan Llwyn, which stands at its foot: owner, Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., Wynnstay;

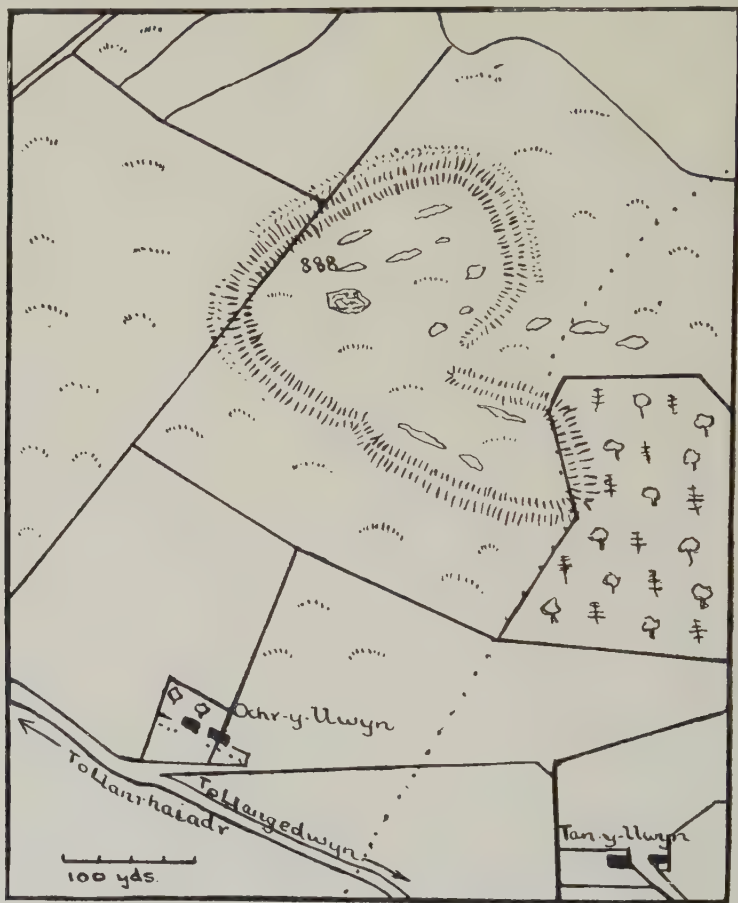


FIG. 93—BRYN DINAS CAMP.

tenant, Mr. Thos. Davies. The best approach to the camp is by Plas Uchaf, the residence of the Vicar of Llangedwyn, which is on E. side of the hill.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xlv, s.w.: lat. $52^{\circ} 48' 43-52''$; long. $3^{\circ} 13' 36-48''$.]

DESCRIPTION. Bryn Dinas commands an excellent view of the Tanat Valley and of the hilly country to the N. It is very steep on all sides except the E., where there is a hollowed gradual slope, narrow at the top and widening towards the bottom. The defences consist of a rampart made of rubble, which surrounds the summit of the hill.

There is only one entrance, which is on the E., where the rampart on either side of the hollow slope turns inwards. Starting a perambulation of the rampart from the entrance in a S.E. direction, we find that it is rather weak until the plantation on the E. is reached. In the wood and on the S. side it is stronger. There is no ditch on the outside or on the inside. Just before the W. corner is reached a level ledge or berm is noticed outside the rampart. This develops into a ditch with a counterscarp. These are continued, after a short break, in a more pronounced fashion on the N.W. and N.E. sides, though at the N. corner they are somewhat faint. The rampart on the N.W. side is very strong. Inside the camp, which is about 8 acres in area, there are outcrops of rock in several places, and about 60 yds. from the rampart on the W. is a small pool, the water of which trickles down the hill along the hollow slope already referred to.

REFERENCES. 1. The following reference to the camp appears in the *Parochialia* (Ed. Lhuyd, 1699), pt. iii, p. 52 :—" At the upper end of the ^{s^d} parish [Llangedwyn] westward there is a hill called Llwyn Bron Dinas where hath been a great fort surrounded with 2 trenches."

2. Fenton (*Tours*, edited by J. Fisher, 1917, p. 80) describes his visit to the spot in August, 1808, thus : " After much slipping and winding we gained the top [of Bryn Dinas] and found a most extensive work of the Britons and of their earliest style, having but one high agger following the crown of the Hill, in circumference half-a-mile at least. It had one approach to the S. East, being a natural hollow in the Hill, assisted by art to make it more accessible by making the Road to wind, and cutting through the rubly rock."

FINDS. 1. Several years ago, while digging after a rabbit on the W. side of the hill just below the rampart, Mr. John Edwards (died 1926), of Y Graig, found, about a yard below the surface, an iron axe-hammer, with perforation for handle, much corroded. It measured about 7 in. long and 4 in. across the cutting edge. On his way home Edwards showed it to the late Peter Williams, of Wernlas, who struck it against the wall of the stable, thereby shattering the butt end. Unfortunately, the fragments were not collected and preserved.

2. About the year 1907, when a new wire fence was being put up around the plantation to the S.E. of the camp, Mr. Hugh Hughes, of Hendre Scrwgan, while digging a hole for the corner post at the N.W. angle of the plantation, found a good-sized gold signet ring in black soil, about 4 ft. deep. This he put in his waistcoat pocket. When, a short time after, he looked for it to show a fellow workman it had disappeared, there being a hole in his pocket. Subsequent search failed to recover it. Information obtained from Mr. Thos. Davies, Tan Llwyn, and afterwards verified by Mr. Hugh Hughes.

Visited May, 1913, Nov. 6, 1917, and Nov. 1, 1927.

[*Inventory*, No. 489, p. 137.]

PILLAR STONE—MAENHIR: MAES MOCHNANT ISAF.

SITE. This stands in a field called "Cae" or "Erw y Garreg," belonging to Maes Mochnant Isaf, about $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. s.e. of Llanrhaiadr Church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xliii, s.e. : lat. $52^{\circ} 48' 49''$; long. $3^{\circ} 16' 50''$.]



FIG. 94—MAESMOCHNANT ISAF MAENHIR.

Photo. by Mrs. Edward Evans.

DESCRIPTION. The dimensions are : height, about 4 yds. ; breadth, over 2 ft. across the widest part ; thickness, $1\frac{1}{4}$ ft. On the N. side is inscribed : R.W., y. 1772 (Robert Williams, year 1772). The stone, according to the late Mr. T. W. Hancock, belongs to the traprock formation of the Cwm Blowty locality, near the waterfall, from where it is said to have come originally.

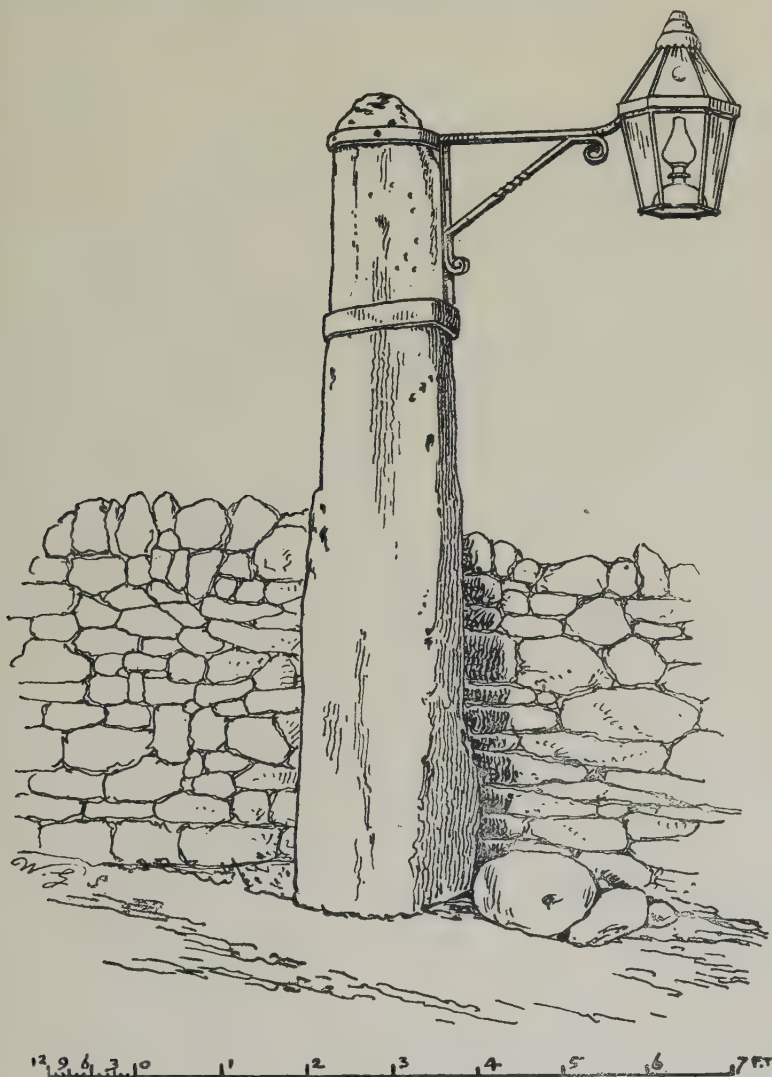
FOLK-LORE. The stone, which is sometimes called "Post Coch" (Red Pillar) and "Post-y-Wiber" (Pillar of the snake), was formerly, so tradition says, draped with scarlet cloth to allure and excite the flying serpent which troubled the locality, and studded with iron spikes to kill it when it beat itself against the stone in its fury.

Seen several times.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1894, pp. 153-4 ; *Mont. Collect.*, iv, p. 236 (T. W. Hancock) ; *Inventory*, No. 487, p. 137.]

PILLAR STONE—MAENHIR: THE VILLAGE.

SITE. This is situated near the National School, at the E. end of the village. Formerly it stood on the summit of a mound that occupied the site of the school-room. Tradition says that it came originally from Rhos Maes Criafol, in Maengwynedd.



MAENHIR - LLANRHYADER.

FIG. 95.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xliii, N.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 49' 23''$; long. $3^{\circ} 17' 53''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This stone, which is generally known as the "Green Stone," the "Green" (Green Uchaf) being the name of that part of the village where it stands, measures about 10 ft. in height and about $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in breadth in the lower part. Towards the top it

tapers a little. For many years it served as a lamp-post. In 1925, when electric light was introduced into the village, the lamp was removed. Formerly it did duty as a milestone, for it bears the inscription :

A SALOP XXVI
A LOND CLXXX

Above this are the words :

VIATORVM
SOLATIO
ET
COMMEDITATI

(" For the comfort and convenience of wayfarers "),
and on the back :

H. P. VIC
P.
MDCCLXX.

? " The present Vicar or Vicar of the Parish set this up, 1770 " (*Hunc posuit Vicarius praesens, or parochiae*).

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. Fenton, in his *Tours in Wales* (ed. J. Fisher, 1917, p. 80), writes : " Without the Garden [of the Vicarage], the late Doctor Worthington, Vicar of this Church, erected a Maenhir and inscribed it thus : VIATORVM, etc." The Rev. W. Worthington was Vicar between 1747 and 1778.

Seen Oct. 27, 1922, and several times previously.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1894, pp. 153 ff. ; *Mont. Coll.*, iv, pp. 236 ff. ; *Inventory*, No. 488, p. 137.]

ANCIENT ROADS.

REFERENCES. Pennant (*Tours* iii, pp. 180-1) writes : " It runs [the Roman road] from *Caer Sws*, points towards *Meifod* . . . I am not able to pursue it either to or from *Meifod* ; but the late *Dr. Worthington* [Vicar of *Llanrhiaidr*, 1747-78] assured me, that it was met with in his parish at *Street Fawr*, near *Coed y Clawdd* ; that it crossed *Rhos y Brithdir* to *Pen y Street*, and from thence to *Llam-jwrch* [*Glan Iwrch*], to *Caerfach*, which is supposed to have been a small Roman camp. *Dr. Worthington* supposed that this road tends to *Chester*. Notwithstanding it is rather out of its place, let me speak of another road in the same parish and mentioned to me by the same gentleman [in letter dated Nov. 29th, 1774]. This seems to lead from *Rutunium*, *Rowton* in *Shropshire*. It crosses the *Tanat* at *Gartheryr* ; from whence it passes through *Street y Planirau* [*Planciau*] to *Maengwynedd*, and winds up *Bwlch Maen Gwynedd*, and retains the name of *Ffordd Gam Elen*, or the winding road of Helen."

Sir Richard Colt Hoare, Bart., has the following note in the Introduction to his translation of the *Itinerary* of Gerald de Barri (vol. i, pp. clx-i, 1802) :—" The above account [viz. Pennant's] led me personally to examine these respective places. I was much disappointed at finding no signs of the causeway at *Street Vawr* (Great

Street) as the name gave me sanguine hopes of discovering it, but on the other side of the common called *Rhos y Brithdir*, near the place called *Pen y Street*, or head of the street, I plainly distinguished the raised causeway descending the hill through a narrow dingle, on the right of the present road, into the vale of the river *Tanad*. These are the *last* traces I have seen of this road in its northerly direction. From *Mediolanum*, it continued its course to *Bovium*, or *Banchor* [Bangor on Dee], and from thence to Deva, or Chester. Had I been fortunate enough to discover the site of *Mediolanum*, *all* the stations of this long *Iter* would have been ascertained. I made three repeated visits to the *Vale of Tanad*, and explored every field I thought likely to have been occupied by the Romans; but, although I found many suspicious names, such as *Cae Castelh*, the Castle Field, *Tre Hên*, the old city, etc., etc., yet I found no coins, no brick, no pottery, no inscribed stones, in short no *index* whatever of a Roman town: it is however singular that a tradition should so universally prevail amongst the natives of a *large old city* having once stood in the *Vale of Tanad*, and on the very spot where, from the direction of the *Via Devana*, I should have expected it to meet the branch of the *Southern Watling Street*; but after many minute and tedious researches, I could gain no satisfactory information on this subject."

Fenton (*Tours*, ed. J. Fisher, 1917, p. 81) remarks: 'Aug. 26, 1808 . . . Thinking it a likely place [Pen Dommen] for the *Mediolanum*, we made all the enquiries and examination we could; but could get no account of any thing having been dug up there, or anything indicative of there having been anything Roman. Leaving Sir R. Hoare [who accompanied him], I turn down towards the Bridge to which the supposed Roman Road comes from *Caer Sws*, and saw a very fine *Maen Hir* in a Field. . . . The farmer [of *Maes Mochnant Isaf*—R. Williams presumably] told me that in dry Summers the course of the ancient Road is very perceptible by the more stunted and yellow herbage or Corn over different fields."

DISCOVERY OF A PAVED ROAD. In the Spring of 1921 Mr. Richard Edward Humphreys, the son of Mr. Charles Humphreys, of *Maes Mochnant Isaf*, came upon a bit of pavement in making holes for wooden gate posts in the lane leading from the main road to the farm. Humphreys was at the time moving the gate a little farther from the railway which crosses the lane close to the road. The attention of Mr. Ed. Evans, J.P. (died Dec., 1926), of *Eirianfa*, was drawn to the discovery, who, with Professor Robt. Richards, of *Llangynog*, and other members of the Upper Tanat Antiquarian Society, undertook in June, 1922, to search for further evidence of a paved road. Excavations, which yielded satisfactory results, were made at several points in the lane on either side of the gate. A hole about 2 ft. by 1 ft., close to the western post, on the road side, was re-opened by Mr. Ed. Evans for the writer's inspection on Nov. 7, 1922. Eight inches or so from the surface was seen a well-constructed pavement. At two points on the s. side of the main road at the junction of the lane, pavements had been noticed. One spot was where the

railway notice board stands. The other was a few yards to the w. The pavement at the latter spot could not apparently belong to the same road as the other bits that were exposed. Possibly two roads crossed at this point.

STONE HAMMER: RIVER IWRCH.

DISCOVERY. The above was found in a heap of stones drawn from the River Iwrch for road metal in a field called Dol Impiau, immediately to the N. of Pont Maes Mochnant, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. of Llanrhaiadr village.

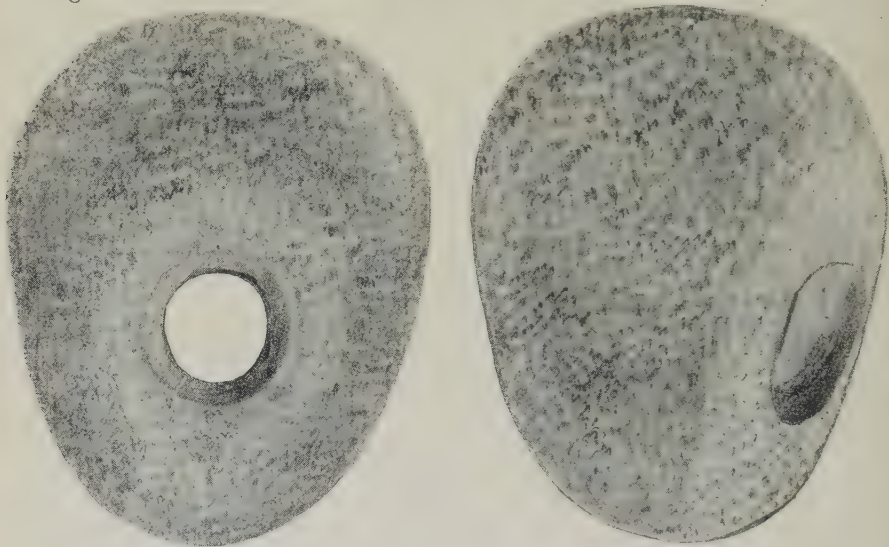


FIG. 96—STONE HAMMER, RIVER TWRCH.

Drawing by Mrs. J. Ward.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xliii, S.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 58' 50''$; long. $3^{\circ} 16' 11''$.]

DESCRIPTION. "It seems to have been made from a pebble in its natural shape, but to have been artificially perforated. It is $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. long by 2 in. wide at its broadest part, and weighs 7 ounces."

PRESENT LOCATION. It is preserved at the Powysland Museum, Welshpool (see *Catalogue*, p. 26), having been presented in 1875 by the late Mr. T. G. Jones ("Cyffin") of Llansantffraid (died 1885).

Seen Oct. 27, 1921.

[*Mont. Collections*, vol. iv, p. 248.]

STONE HAMMER: TYN-Y-DDOL.

SITE. Tyn-y-ddol is a farm 3 m. N.W. of Llanrhaiadr Church on the road leading to the waterfall [6 in. O.S. sheet xli, S.W. : lat. $52^{\circ} 50' 50''$; long. $3^{\circ} 21' 15''$.]

REFERENCE. In the *Montgomeryshire Collections*, vol. iv (1871), p. 248, Mr. T. W. Hancock writes: "A well formed stone hammer was discovered in one of the friths of Ty'n ddol measuring about 6 in. long, with a hole in the centre. It was shaped like a smith's hammer."

PRESENT LOCATION. Unknown.

PERFORATED WHETSTONE: TYN-Y-GRAIG.

DISCOVERY. This was found by Mr. J. Edwards (died 1926), Y Graig, Llanrhaiadr, on the surface of a field called Ffridd-yr-Arren on Tyn-y-graig Farm, half a mile or so N. from Pentrefelin, a hamlet between Llangedwyn and Llanrhaiadr. The field in question is N.E. of the plantation on the top of a hill bearing the name of Arren Bach.

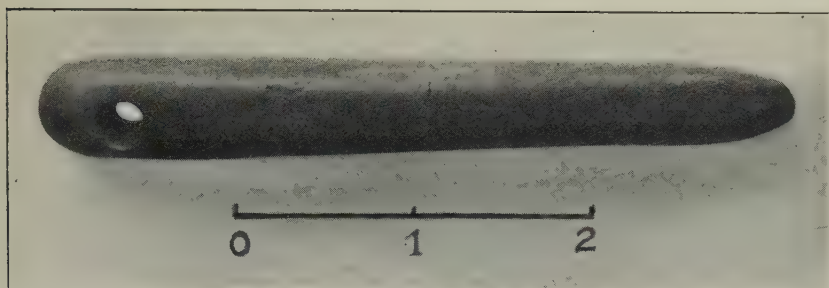


FIG. 97—PERFORATED WHETSTONE, TYN-Y-GRAIG.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xlv, N.W.: lat. 52° 49' 20"; long. 3° 13' 30" (approx.).]

DESCRIPTION. The whetstone is $4\frac{3}{8}$ in. long, and slightly over $\frac{1}{2}$ in. in breadth and depth. It tapers a little from the end where the perforation is. The latter was made from the two sides and is wider at the surfaces than in the middle. The colour is dark and the surface smooth. The stone is of very fine grain.

PURPOSE. There can be little doubt that the object under consideration was a whetstone or hone, unmistakable evidence of wear being visible on at least one side. In the *Inventory* (No. 501, p. 140) it is wrongly designated a hammer.

PRESENT LOCATION. It was presented by the finder to Mr. R. Roberts, The Stores, Penybont, and is preserved in his collection of antiquities and curios.

First seen Sept. 6, 1916. Lent to the writer in order to be photographed June, 1928.

QUERN STONE: TYBRITH.

The stone in question lies in the yard of Tybrith, near Efelrhyd, having about 1920 been removed from a field called Rhos, where, near the pool, it is known to have lain for at least 80 years. It is a circular, flat stone, about 20 in. in diameter, and 4 in. deep, with a central perforation $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. across. Neither face of the stone now looks as if it had been used for grinding. Possibly the milling surface has split or flaked off.

Seen Oct. 27, 1921.

FRAGMENTS OF QUERNS: BUARTH-Y-RE.

These—two in number—were found by the late Dr. J. Kenrick Jones, about the year 1901, in the wall of the road by Tyn-y-fedwen, not far from Buarth-y-Re in Maengwynedd, about 4 m. N.W. of Llanrhaiadr. One of the fragments is 13 by 7 in. and the other 7 by $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. Both are grooved and show traces of a central orifice.

The fragments are preserved at the residence, formerly of Dr. Kenrick Jones, now of Dr. D. J. Micah, in Llanrhaiadr village.

Seen Sept. 6, 1916.

[*Inventory*, No. 502, p. 140.]

SPINDLE WHORLS: TY ISAF.

Two whorls were discovered about 1906 by Mr. W. Morris, owner and tenant of Ty Isaf Farm, while ploughing one of his fields. Ty Isaf, in Maen Gwynedd, is about 2 m. N. of Llanrhaiadr.

One of the whorls is made out of a piece of slate, and measures a little over an inch in diameter. The other is of a light-coloured stone and resembles a trefoil in shape with the hole in the centre. It measures about 2 in. across the widest part.

When seen (Sept. 6, 1916), they were temporarily in the custody of Dr. Kenrick Jones, Llanrhaiadr.

SPINDLE WHORLS.

I.

Several were discovered about 1870 by Mr. John Edwards, Y Graig, Pentrefelin, Llanrhaiadr, in ploughing and harrowing a field called Cae Forest, belonging to Tyn-y-graig Farm, which is about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. of Pentrefelin.

These whorls are now in the possession of Mr. Robert Roberts, The Stores, Penybont Fawr.

II.

Mr. J. Edwards also found one in a field belonging to Cae Mawr Farm, Llanrhaiadr. This was also presented to Mr. Roberts, The Stores, Penybont Fawr.

III.

Mr. J. Edwards picked up several others from time to time in various places in the neighbourhood, in catching rabbits and tilling the ground. These, seven in number, were presented to the writer in November, 1917. They all vary in size and shape.

LLANRHAIDR YN CINMERCH.

TUMULUS: BWLCH DU.

SITE. This is situated on high ground on the moor, about 400 paces to the S.S.E. of Bwlch Du House, which stands near the road from Denbigh to Cerrig y drudion, a little over $6\frac{1}{2}$ m. in a straight line, to the S.W. of Llanrhaiadr Church. The moor belongs to Mrs. Bretherton, of Eccleston Rectory, Lancashire, and is rented by the occupier of Pennant Uchaf.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xviii, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 6' 35''$; long. $3^{\circ} 30' 39''$.]

DESCRIPTION. It is a small tumulus measuring only about 38 paces in circumference and about $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. It is covered with heather like the surrounding ground. There is a stone imbedded in fringe on the w. side, and two together on the N.W. side. There are no signs of its having been subjected to examination. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

Seen Ap. 29, 1925.

TUMULUS : RHYD SIÔN WYN.

SITE. This tumulus, which is known as Poncyn Arian, stands 160 yds. or so due E. of Rhyd Siôn Wyn, a ford in Afon Fechan, now crossed by a bridge, $7\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.W. of Llanrhaiadr Church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xviii, S.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 6' 8''$; long. $3^{\circ} 31' 9''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The tumulus measures about 74 paces in circumference and about $4\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. It is composed of soil and covered with turf and heather. A considerable hole has been made at the apex. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

EXCAVATION. The late Mr. William Pierce (died Nov. 8, 1918), of Hafoty Siôn Llwyd, informed the writer that the mound was partly excavated in the time of his father (who bore the same name), about the year 1850, by the father of the late Col. Thomas Hughes, of Ystrad, and that an urn was brought to light. The following statement in W. Davis's *Handbook for the Vale of Clwyd* (1857, p. 113) may be compared :—"There are near the site of the Camp [Hen Ddinbych] several *British tumuli* in which urns have been discovered."

NAME. The tumulus is called Poncyn Arian (The Mound of the Money) possibly from the common belief that treasure was buried in tumuli.

Seen May, 1913, Aug. 20, 1918, and Ap. 28, 1925.

[*Inventory*, No. 475, p. 132.]

TUMULUS : TŴR YR HILL.

SITE. The tumulus known as Tŵr yr Hill, that is, Tower Hill, is situated $5\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. of Llanrhaiadr Parish Church, and nearly $1\frac{3}{4}$ m. N.E. of Hen Ddinbych, on an elevated and extensive moor. It stands 200 yds. E. of the mountain track leading from the Nantglyn and Prion road.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xviii, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 6' 40\cdot5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 28' 41''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This is a large tumulus, measuring about 110 paces in circumference and varying on different sides from 6 to 10 ft. in height. It is composed of clayey soil and covered with heather. The summit has been scooped out and an opening made on the E. side. At one time a small wooden shooting-box stood on the top, remains of which are still to be seen. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

Visited July 17, 1925.

REMAINS OF A CAIRN: ABOVE CEUNANT DIFFWYS.

SITE. These remains are situated on the sheep walk (Mynydd) of Hafoty Wen, which lies between Afon Clywedog and its tributary, Aber Terfyn, that is, the boundary stream between the parishes of Llanrhaiadr and Cyffylliog, some 1,100 yds. to the s.w. of Diffwys house, which is 5 m. s.w. of the village of Llanrhaiadr, and about 2 m. w. of that of Cyffylliog.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xviii, s.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 6' 45''$; long. $3^{\circ} 28' 11''$.]

DESCRIPTION. What is to be seen at present at the spot indicated above is a ruined sheep shelter built in the shape of a cross of four equal arms at right angles to each other. This erection was no doubt made on the site of a cairn and from its material. The margin of the cairn is traceable in places. The circumference may have been about 60 paces. There are some biggish stones in the central pile. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

Seen Feb. 20, 1928.

CIRCULAR PLATFORM: RHYD SIÔN WYN.

SITE. This is situated about 200 yds. to the s.e. of the bridge over Afon Fechan at Rhyd Siôn Wyn, and about 56 yds. to the s.s.e. of the tumulus known as Boncyn Arian (q.v.). Rhyd Siôn Wyn is $7\frac{1}{4}$ m., in a straight line, from Llanrhaiadr Church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xviii, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 6' 6''$; long. $3^{\circ} 31' 28''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The monument here referred to is a large circular platform, about 2 ft. above the surrounding ground and about 75 paces in circumference. Around the edge it is slightly higher than in the interior. It is covered with turf and heather. Stones enter into the composition of at least the periphery, some of which could be seen on the s.e. side in 1913. In April, 1925, several in more than one place had been recently taken out and left on the surface. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

Seen May, 1913, Aug. 20, 1918, and Ap. 28, 1925.

STONE CIRCLES OR CIRCULAR PLATFORMS: HAFOTY SIÔN LLWYD.

I.

SITE. One circle is situated on rising ground about 220 yds. to the w. of Hen Ddinbych (q.v.), and about 900 yds. to the s.e. of Hafoty Siôn Llwyd.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xviii, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 5' 40''$; long. $3^{\circ} 30' 41''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This is about 12 paces in diameter. The stones forming it are of a fairly good size, one of the largest measuring 5 ft. long. Only about 18 of the stones remained in 1913, and several of them were not *in situ*. Those which lay on the n. had been carted away for building purposes. There are two or three embedded in the centre of the circle.

II.

A second circle is about 500 yds. due N. of Hen Ddinbych. This is 80 paces in circumference. The area inside is covered with a layer of stones, which are visible here and there where the floor has been dug into. The stones do not form a pavement.

III.

Three hundred yards so to the N.W. of No. 1 is a green patch in the middle of the heath, on which is a small platform or enclosure, more square than circular, measuring about 10 yds. across each way. The enclosing bank is composed of soil.

Seen May, 1913, Aug. 20, 1918, and May 19, 1925.

[*Inventory*, No. 481, p. 134 (No. 1 or No. 2, or both !).]

SITE OF CAIRN : Y GARNEDD.

On either side of the road leading from Denbigh to Cerrig-y-drudion, about 2 m. from the former place, are two farms called Garnedd Uchaf and Garnedd Isaf. The *cairn* to which these names point seems to have stood somewhere near the site of the Calvinistic Methodist Chapel, Peniel, which was erected in 1836. That particular spot is said to have been formerly known as Pen-y-garnedd. Mr. J. Lloyd Williams, editor of "*Baner ac Amserau Cymru*" (Denbigh), a native of the locality, is of opinion that slight remains of the cairn still exist on the waste patch between the main road and the lane leading to Garnedd Isaf, just opposite the Chapel Vestry-room.

Visited Nov. 12, 1918, and June 8, 1920.

[*Inventory*, No. 480, p. 134.]

MEGALITHIC REMAINS (?) : CEFN MAEN.

On either side of the lane to Cefn Maen Farm from the main road, close to the gate, are about 12 large boulders, with quantities of smaller stones. Some of the former are apparently where they stood when the lane was made, others in all probability are not in their original positions, having been arranged in a row to form a wall for the lane. It is not impossible that there was once a tumulus on this spot, traces of which are perhaps to be noticed in the plantation on both sides of the entrance. Cefn Maen is 4 m. w.s.w. of Llanrhaiadr Church, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. of that of Nantglyn.

[6 in. O.S. Sheet xiii, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 8' 42''$; long. $3^{\circ} 27' 41''$.]

Seen Jan. 2, 1929.

PILLAR STONE : NEAR HEN DDINBYCH.

POSITION. This stone is situated about $\frac{3}{4}$ m. S.E. of Hafoty Siôn Llwyd, and about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. E. of Hen Ddinbych, at the corner of a sheep-fold belonging to Hafoty Wen.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xviii, S.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 5' 38''$; long. $3^{\circ} 30' 5''$.]

DESCRIPTION. Its dimensions are : length, 7 ft. 9 in. ; breadth, 6 ft. ; depth, 6 ft. Beside it is a fairly large fragment fallen from the top.

FOLK-LORE. The name of the stone is " Maen-y-cleddau " (The Stone of the Sword), the legend being that the fragment lying on the ground was sliced off by a giant with his sword.

Visited Aug. 20, 1918.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1878, p. 107.]

HUTS : NANT Y GRIAFOLEN.

SITE. These—two in number—are on the N. bank of the small stream, Nant y Griafofen, which runs to Afon Fechan at Rhyd Siôn Wyn, about 170 and 330 paces respectively E. of the junction of the track leading to Hafoty Siôn Llwyd with the Denbigh road.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xviii, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 6' 14''$ and $15''$; long. $3^{\circ} 3' 50''$ and $58''$.]

DESCRIPTION. Only the stone foundations of the huts, which are oblong in shape, remain. They measure about 5 by 3 yds.

On the heath immediately to the N. are traces in the shape of low earthen banks of a number of enclosures of various sizes.

DATE. Unknown.

Seen June 8, 1929.

EARTHWORK : COED CORNIWCH.



FIG. 98—COED CORNIWCH EARTHWORK.

SITE. This is situated about 1,000 yds. to the N.E. of Nantglyn Parish Church, in a plantation called Coed Corniwmch, which is on the S.E. side of the second field S. of Tanygyrt Lodge, some 200 yds. from the road to Nantglyn from Denbigh.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xiii, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 9' 7''$; long. $3^{\circ} 28' 39''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The earthwork in question consists of a crescent-shaped rampart or bank, measuring about 500 ft. in length, and from 4 to 5 ft. in height, with a ditch on the outside and an outer bank for

about 30 paces from the termination on the N.E. side. The termination of the banks and fosse on this side coincides with the edge of the plantation, but at the other end the bank dies away a few yards before reaching the end of the wood. There are at present no signs in the field below (N.) that the bank and fosse were continued so as to form an enclosure. The area, partly surrounded by the bank and ditch, is about 70 yds. long and 30 yds. wide. The earthwork is marked on the 6-in. Ord. survey map, edition of 1914. Elevation : above contour line 600.

DATE AND PURPOSE. These are unknown. The position on a slope precludes a defensive purpose.

Seen May 20, 1925.

EARTHWORK : HEN DDINBYCH.

SITE. The remains which bear the name " Hen Ddinbych " are situated $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.E. of Hafoty Siôn Llwyd, a holding about $7\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.W. of Llanrhaiadr Church, and $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. of Rhyd Siôn Wyn where the road from Denbigh to Cerrig-y-drudion crosses the stream Afon Fechan.

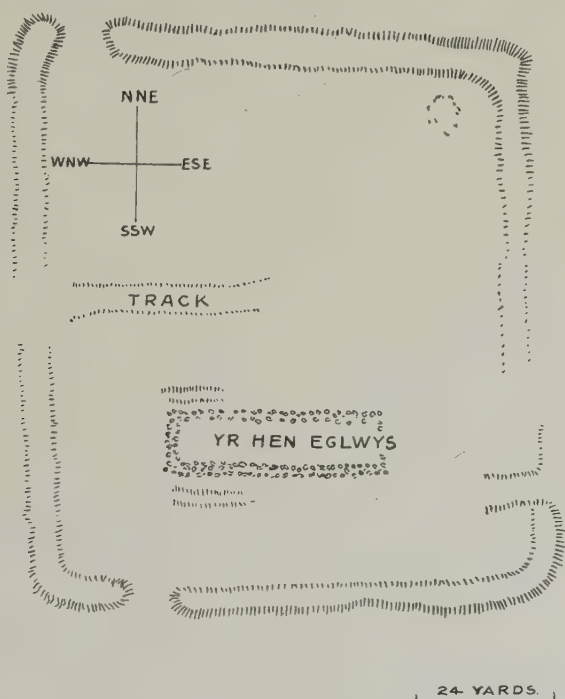


FIG. 99—HEN DDINBYCH.

The country for miles around is moorland, with here and there a cultivated patch. The site is on a gentle slope facing S., at the bottom of which slope is a tiny brook called Afon Maen Cleddau or Aber Llech Ddaniel.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xviii, S.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 5' 40''$; long. $3^{\circ} 30' 28''$.]

DESCRIPTION. Hen Ddinbych consists of an enclosure all but square, measuring roughly about 90 paces from N. to S., and about 83 from W. to E. It is enclosed by a somewhat low bank with slightly rounded corners made of earth and some stones, averaging about a yard in height and 3 yds. in width, outside which is a shallow ditch. There are what appear to be entrance gaps in the E., N. and S. sides, not in the middle, but near the corners. In the W. side there was an entrance in the middle, from which extended eastwards a paved trackway made with good-sized cobbles. Of this there are now only remains. Scores of loads of stones have at different times been removed. Hafoty Siôn Llwyd, for instance, was in 1881 built with stones from here. When the writer first visited the spot in 1913, a piece of paved surface about 2 yds. wide and several yards long had recently been robbed of its stones. The area inside the enclosure is somewhat uneven, and there are traces here and there of indefinable structures, besides the stone building to be described below. The enclosing bank has nearly been obliterated in the middle of the E. and W. sides. A track which passes by, to the E., is called Llwybr Elen, and some distance to the S.W. is Sarn Elen. A hundred yards to the E. of the S. side of the enclosure is a strong spring of water emanating from the rock and flowing into Aber Llech Ddaniel.

Stone Structure. About 22 ft. from the S. bank, inside the area, are the remains of a long narrow stone building known locally as the Old Church ("Yr Hen Eglwys"). Its dimensions are: length, about 37 yds., and breadth, 7 yds. The walls are about a yard thick. On either side of the W. part of the structure is a bank of earth formed presumably by the removal of soil from the site of the building.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES. 1. In the *Survey of the Honour of Denbigh*, 1334 (see the edition of Vinogradoff and Frank Morgan, 1914, p. 25), mention is made of "a certain waste called Bysshopeswall, which contains 1127 acres, 3½ roods, with the hamlet of Berebowe and Havothlum adjoining, the pasture of which is sold annually to the community for 20 shillings."* The Rev. J. Williams, in his *Records of Denbigh* (1860), pp. 13, 14, suggested that "Bysshopeswall" was to be identified with the site now in question, cf. *History of the Diocese of St. Asaph*, by D. R. Thomas, vol. ii, 58. Bishopswall is no doubt the "waste" in which Hen Ddinbych lies, for both Berebowe and Havothlum are adjacent sites, the former being at present the name of a stream—Aber Berbo—less than ½ m. to the S.W. (see 6-in. O.S. sheet xviii, S.W.), and the latter, a holding—Havod-lom—a little further to the S.W.

2. Leland, in his *Itinerary* (1549, ed. 1906, p. 95), writes: "In Kinemarch commote be 2 places where be likelihood hath beene sum castelettes or piles of defence. Llesguenlleian is the one, and that is a 3 quarters of a mile owt of Denbigh toward South in the way to Ruthine on the right hand. . . . Place amedowe is the other, where

* "COMOTUS DE KAYMERGH . . . : Villata de Kernyneuet: . . . Item est ibi quoddam vastum quod vocatur Bysshopeswall quod continet mcxxvij acr. iij rod. dim. cum hamella de Berebowe et Havothlum adjacentibus unde pastura renditur communibus annis pro xxs."

is a great dicke and a hille. The name [declarith] it to have beene the place [of an her]emite. [Wither ther hathe] beene [any o]ther th[ing] there it is out] of memorie. [There is nothing now] but a fox borow. It is a mile and more from Denbigh [by South in the way to Ruthin on the lifte hand].” The words within [] are supplied from Jno. Stow’s copy, 1576—a London Antiquary. Leland’s “Place amedowe,” that is, Plas y Meudwy (Hermit’s Place), is probably Hen Ddinbych, though his description of the site is very inaccurate. Thus “castelette” and “great ditch and hill” are altogether inapplicable. The distance from Denbigh is wide of the mark, it being not a “mile and more,” but over 7 m. The position “on the lift (left) hand” from the road from Denbigh to Ruthin is also wrong.

3. In the *Parochialia* (Ed. Lhuyd, 1698), i, p. 151, under Nanklyn [Nantglyn] the following reference to the site under review occurs :—“Bŷ hên Dre wrth Lêch Dheniol [In Corrigenda ii, p. 11, Dheniel] ym hlwy Lh. Rhaiadr” (There has been an old settlement [tref] near Llech Ddaniel in the parish of Llanrhaidr). “Llech Ddaniel” is the name of the moor immediately to the N.E. of Hen Ddinbych (cf. the 6-in. O.S. sheet xviii, s.w.).

4. In *The Records of Denbigh*, 1860, J. Williams writes (pp. 13, 14): “On the moor, between Nantglyn and Cerrig-y-druidion stands a remarkable ruin, wearing the greyness of ages, and measuring one hundred paces by ninety, with an inner erection measuring forty paces by ten. From its quadrangular form, and correspondence with the cardinal points, it has, generally, been taken for the remains of a Roman station, and called *Hen Ddinbych* . . . : but the mountaineer who conducted the writer to the spot told him that it was, according to common tradition, an ecclesiastical ruin . . . and that the inner walls, formed of large blocks of stone, some retaining their original position, others strewed about, were those of a church . . . ; and the outer enclosure the churchyard Can this be ‘Bisshopeswalle,’ and so called from some mitred recluse, who sought security here in times of pagan persecution, Roman or Saxon incursions into the inhabited valleys and hospitable glens around ? ”

DATE AND PURPOSE. The oblong stone structure has the appearance of being more modern than earthwork, but there is no valid reason for concluding that it is so really. Much uncertainty has prevailed as to the date and purpose of the site. One view that has been held is that it was a small Roman camp or station (see W. Davis’s *Handbook for the Vale of Clwyd*, p. 113 ; J. Williams’s *Records of Denbigh*, pp. 13, 14 ; *Arch. Camb.*, 1878, 105 ff. [E. L. Barnwell]). Another surmise is that it was “a shelter erected by the Church, probably in the first half of the 13th century, for the protection of travellers across the desolate wastes of Hiraethog” (*Inventory*, p. 133 note). A third suggestion is that it was a mediaeval moated farm. The designation “Hen Dre” in the *Parochialia* seems to lend colour to this view. The common farm-name “Hendre” may be compared.

NAME. When the name “Hen Ddinbych” originated does not transpire. It first appears in print, as it would seem, in W. Davis’s

Handbook (2nd ed., 1857), p. 110, but it was not invented by him. J. Williams, in his *Records* (1860), p. 13, also uses it. The name, however, is a misnomer, for the place had no connection with the town of Denbigh. If the site was at one time known as "Yr Hen Dre" (The Old Town) [cf. *Parochialia* i, 151] then the form Hen Ddinbych originated as a popular explanation. We may compare the name "Old Oswestry" which came to be applied to "Yr Hen Ddinas" (The Old City), a prehistoric camp $\frac{3}{4}$ m. N.W. of Oswestry. The name "Plas y Meudwy," if, as is probable, it refers to Hen Ddinbych, may testify to the occupation of the site, after it had been deserted, by a hermit.

Visited May, 1913, Aug. 20, 1918, and May 19, 1925.

STONE HAMMER: HAFOD LOM.



FIG. 100—STONE HAMMER, HAFOD LOM ($\frac{1}{2}$).

DISCOVERY. This was discovered about 1890 in a field belonging to Hafod Lom, called Bryn Llewelyn ($\frac{1}{4}$ m. E. from the house), by a young man who was ploughing. Subsequently it came into the possession of the late Elias Jones (Llew Hiraethog), of Hafod-y-llan-uchaf. At his death it passed to his nephew, Mr. J. Jones, of Tai Newyddion, Ysbyty Ifan, who gave it to Mr. D. Jones, Bryn Saint, Cerrig-y-drudion. Hafod Lom is about $8\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. of Llanrhaiadr village. [6 in. O.S. sheet xviii, S.W.]

DESCRIPTION. The hammer, which is all but oblong in shape, with rounded corners and edges, and beautifully worked, measures $3\frac{1}{4}$ in. long, 2 in. broad, and $1\frac{1}{8}$ in. deep. The perforation is straight and measures $\frac{3}{4}$ in. in diameter on one side, and slightly more on the other. The weight is $8\frac{1}{2}$ oz. The stone of which it is made is a diorite.

PRESENT LOCATION. Mr. D. Jones presented the implement to the writer, Oct. 14, 1925, who deposited it at the St. Asaph Cathedral Library (Chapter House) in 1929.

QUERN : HEN DDINBYCH.

DESCRIPTION. This is an octagonal block of sandstone about a foot high and 13 in. across, on the top of which is a circular depression about 10 in. in diameter and $2\frac{3}{4}$ in. in depth, with a small hole in the centre, and another in the front. In the lower part of the front on the outside is a square hole.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xviii, s.w.]

PROVENANCE. This quern or pounder was discovered at Hen Ddinbych, according to the late Mr. Cadwaladr Roberts, of Bryn Hir (near Hafod Lom), who, about 1880, presented it to Mr. D. Jones, of Bryn Saint, Cerrig-y-drudion. About 1909 it was acquired from Mr. Jones by Mr. Tegid Owen, of the Castle Hotel, Ruthin, and is now to be seen near the front door of the White Lion Hotel, Cerrig-y-drudion, where Mr. Owen resides.

Seen Oct. 26, 1921, and subsequently.

QUERN : PEN-Y-BRYN.

On October 4, 1927, the writer noticed on the ground close to the front of the house of Pen-y-bryn a round quern stone well worked, with one hole right through from a hopper at the top, and another in the side, for a handle. Its measurements are : height, 7 in. ; diameter of base, 13 in. ; ditto top, 8 in. The present family—Roberts—found it in the position indicated when they came into occupation in 1910. At the suggestion of the writer, and with the consent of the Vicar, the stone was in June, 1928, removed into the parish church for preservation.

LLANRHUDD.

ROMAN COIN.

An aureus or gold coin of Nero was discovered in 1823 in a field on a farm at Llanrhudd. See *Arch. Camb.*, 1847, p. 188. On p. 109 it is erroneously stated that it formed part of a hoard found on Moel Fenlli.

Obverse : Head of Nero, dexter.

Legend : IMP NERO CAESAR AVG PP.

Reverse : Figure of the goddess Salus.

Legend underneath : SALVS.

LLANRWST URBAN.

BRONZE BRACELET : LLWYN ERW.

DISCOVERY. The bronze object here referred to was unearthed in 1897 by Mr. Hugh Thomas, of Tyn-y-ffordd (died 1917), while digging the foundation of a house that was being built by Mr. Hugh Jones, Contractor, Llanrwst, for Mr. Robt. Gerard, who afterwards went to live in Canada. It lay about 2 ft. deep in the ground. Having been thrown up in the soil, it was picked up by Mr. Gerard's boy—

Leonard Ivy Gerard. The house in question is the first on the right hand of the road to Bettws-y-Coed after crossing the bridge over the railway near St. Mary's Church. It bears the name of Llwyn Erw ; for a time it was called Primrose Cottage.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xvi, N.W. : lat. 53° 8' 3" ; long. 3° 47' 30".]



FIG. 101—BRONZE ARMLET, LLANRWST ($\frac{2}{8}$).

DESCRIPTION AND DATE. The armlet, which is 3 in. in diameter and $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide, is made up of three pieces, viz. two semicircular outer sections, bearing the *repoussé* designs, and the inner band, the edges of which are turned outwards and bent over, so as to secure in their places, the *repoussé* sections. The weight is 92.22 grammes.

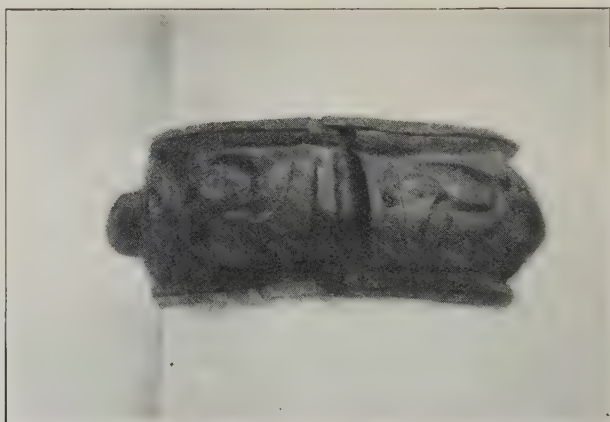


FIG. 101—BRONZE ARMLET, LLANRWST ($\frac{2}{8}$).

In the Annual Report of the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, for 1904, to which institution the armlet was in that year sold by Mr. Gerard, the following comment is made :—' A Bronze Armlet with *repoussé* designs in the finest late Celtic style. . . . The bold and

elegant style of the reliefs, however, carries back the date of its fabric to about the beginning of our era, and to a time when Roman dominion had not extended to the western part of Britain." Dr. Mortimer Wheeler, in *Prehistoric and Roman Wales* (1925), pp. 211-2, writes: "On this the spandrels between a series of strongly marked oval bosses are filled with small leaf-patterns treated with a comparative realism unusual to the style" (i.e. Late Celtic).

The armlet was seen at Oxford in September, 1913, and particulars of discovery obtained in 1914 from Mr. J. Thomas, Salisbury Terrace, Llanrwst, brother to the finder.

[*Heart of Northern Wales*, pp. 47, 48; *Inventory*, No. 526, p. 148.]

PERFORATED STONE DISC: CAE GROES FARM COTTAGE.

While digging a small flower bed in front of Cae Groes Farm Cottage in 1926, Mr. Robert Thomas, the occupier, picked up a circular flat pebble, $3\frac{1}{2}$ by $3\frac{1}{4}$ in. across, with a small hole, made from one side, in the centre and another similar hole, but not driven through, close to it. The stone resembles a spindle whorl except that the perforation is a good deal smaller than is usual in whorls. The relic was presented by the finder to the writer, June 9, 1927.

LLANRWST RURAL.

REMAINS OF LONG CAIRN: MAEN PEBYLL, NEBO.

SITE. These remains are situated a little over $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. of the hamlet of Nebo, in the s.w. corner of the field on the opposite side of the lane to the gate leading to Pen-y-garnedd Farm. Nebo is about $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. of Llanrwst. The field in which they lie is called "Tu draw i'r Clawdd," and belongs to Tynewydd Farm.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xvi, S.E.: lat. $53^{\circ} 5' 40''$; long. $3^{\circ} 43' 28''$.]

DESCRIPTION. At present the remains in question consist of a roughly oblong patch of uneven ground surrounded by a low bank, with a group of four good-sized stones lying at the E. end.

(a) The oblong area is about 36 paces long and 17 paces broad at the E. end and 15 at the w. The enclosing bank, which is the remaining fringe of the destroyed cairn, is somewhat irregular in outline, especially on the s. side, and varies from 1 ft. to 2 ft. in height. In the middle of the E. end the bank bends inwards, forming a bay-like curve. Here was the entrance by means of which access was gained to the chamber or chambers covered by the cairn.

(b) Of the four stones, the largest, which rests on the smallest, measures about 8 by 6 ft., and the next largest 6 ft. 4 in. by 5 ft. 4 in. They are the broken fragments of one large stone which formerly occupied this position [*see below*], and which seems to have formed part of a sepulchral chamber inside the cairn, being possibly one of the supports of the covering slab.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES. In his MS. History of Pentrevoelas (see also *Arch. Journal*, 1854, p. 78), the Rev. John Evans (afterwards Archdeacon of Merioneth) writes: "Near Garnedd Wen stands a fragment of an immense *maenhir* or upright stone with appearances of some former structure around it, which was swept away, like the heap at Garnedd Wen, for walls under an Inclosure Act. At the same time,

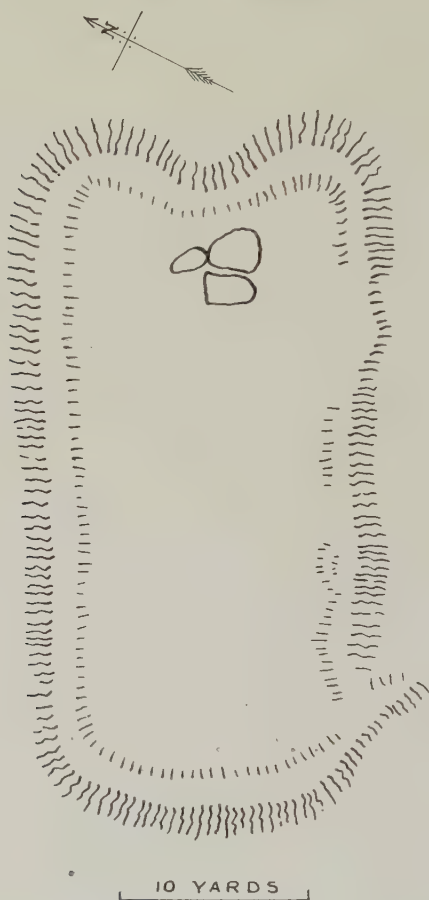


FIG. 102—MAEN PEBYLL.

a piece was blasted off the side of the large stone, but its destruction was for a while averted. In that state, with the broken fragment at its base, stood this interesting monument of probably druidical times, in the Autumn of 1850, when a drawing of it was made by a member of the Voelas family. Shortly afterwards it was blasted and thrown down from mere wanton love of mischief by a vandal living at Bryn (?) y Garnedd."

The late Mr. W. B. Halhed, writing in *Arch. Camb.* for 1909, pp. 246 ff., says: "There seems little doubt that the whole pile represents the mutilated remnants of a large cromlech which was once

covered by a 'long barrow' Several of the stones of the cromlech may have been removed and broken up. A [the largest stone as shown in a 'horizontal plan'] is probably the capstone: C and D are fallen and partly fractured supporters. Whether B formed a large side-stone to the chamber, or was the capstone covering an adjacent second chamber, as is sometimes found, is now difficult to determine." In view of what the Rev. J. Evans says above about the stones, Mr. Halhed's surmisings are quite incorrect.



FIG. 103—MAEN PEBYLL IN 1850.

NAME. Maen Pebyll seems to signify either (1) "The Tent Stone," *pebyll* being in Mediaeval Welsh the singular and not, as now, the plural form [Modern singular = *pabell*, plural = *pebyll*], or (2) "Pebyll's Stone," Pebyll being a personal name, the equivalent of Papilius. "Pebyll" enters into the formation of several place-names in N. and S. Wales. *Rhiw-bebyll* occurs as the name of a township and a farm in the parish of Llandyrnog. *Ogof-bebyll* is a cave at Porthdinllaen, near Nevin, Caernarvonshire. *Cilybebyll* or *Cil-bebyll* and *Post-pebyll* are place-names in Breconshire. Another *Cil-y-bebyll* (Killybebyll) is a hamlet in Glamorganshire, 3 m. s.w. of Ystalyfera

SKETCH. The member of the Voelas family who made a sketch of the stone in Sept., 1850, was Miss F. E. Wynne, Craig Lledr, Dolwyddelan. Copies made by W. F. Price and S. P. Cockerell respectively (the latter in 1890) appear in the Vicarage and Voelas MS. History of the Parish.

Visited in 1913 and several times subsequently.

[*Heart of Northern Wales*, pp. 19-22; *Inventory*, No. 507, p. 142; *Arch. Camb.*, 1923, pp. 143-4.]

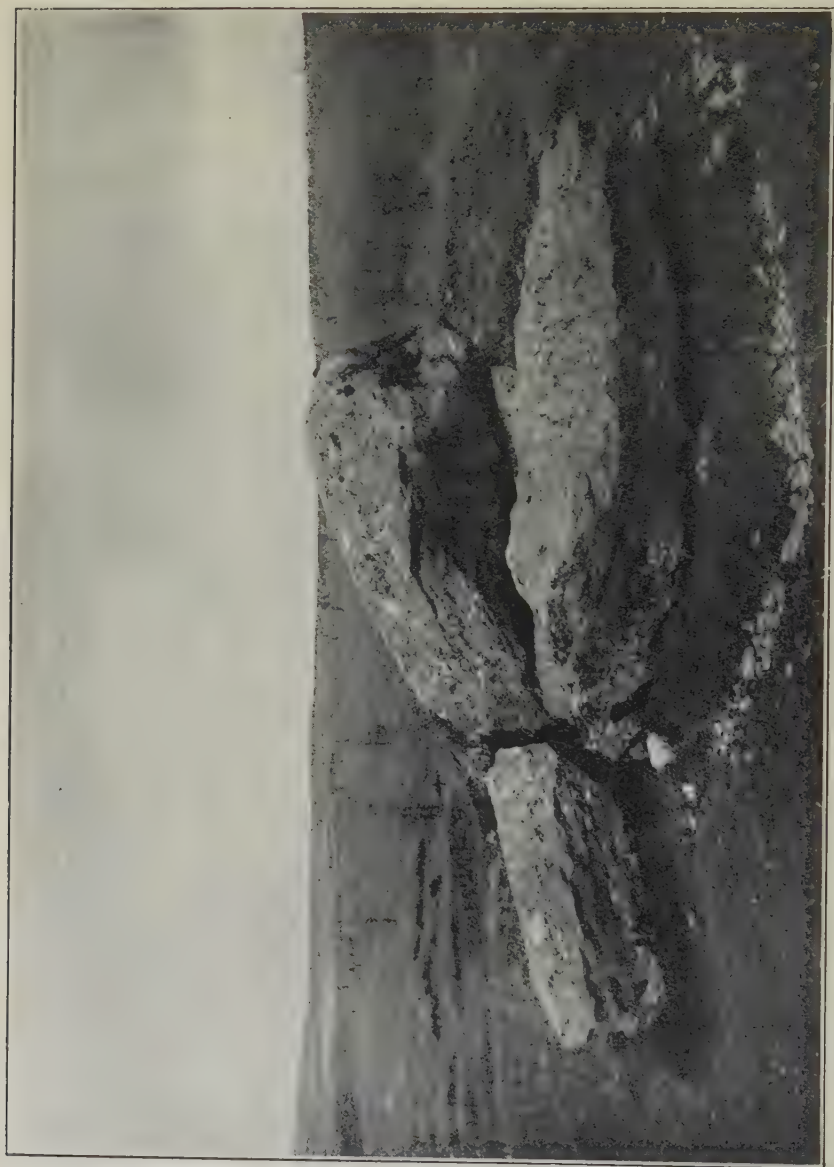


FIG. 104—MAEN PEBYLL BROKEN UP.

CHAMBERED LONG CAIRN—"CROMLECH": CAPEL GARMON.

SITE. This monument, locally known as "Yr Ogof" (The Cave) and "Y Gromlech," is situated about $\frac{3}{4}$ m. to the S.E. of Capel Garmon Church. The field in which it stands bears the name of Cae'r Ogof, and belongs to the farm of Tyn-y-coed. Near this is another farm called Maes-y-garnedd ('The field of the cairn'), the land of which extends "within a short distance of the monument." The name "Maes-y-garnedd" very possibly has reference to the cairn that formerly covered the cromlech or sepulchral chambers now exposed. Major J. C. Wynne Finch, of Voelas, who sold Tyn-y-coed in 1920 to the tenant, retained the site of the cromlech, which he has handed over to the custody of H.M. Office of Works.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiii, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 21''$; long. $3^{\circ} 45' 52''$.]

DESCRIPTION. For descriptions of this monument as it was at the end of the 17th century, and in 1853 just before it was first excavated, *see* below. Previous to 1924, when it underwent a second excavation, it consisted of the remains of a long cairn, exposed in the centre of which were three chambers, lying in a line E. and W., together with a narrow passage or gallery leading to the Central Chamber, at right angles, from the S. side of the cairn.

The *Central Chamber* is a passage, bulging out a little in the centre on either side, joining the E. and W. compartments. It measures



FIG. 105—CAPEL GARMON "CROMLECH" BEFORE EXCAVATION OF 1924.

11 ft. by 6 ft. Near the centre is a large slab standing E. and W., between which and the N. side is another similar one placed at right angles. The capstone is missing.

The *Eastern Chamber* is circular, measuring 8 ft. 10 in. in diameter. Seven slabs enter into the construction of the periphery. The capstone is not extant.

The *Western Chamber* is larger, and slightly oval, its dimensions being 12 ft. by 9 ft. 9 in. Eight of the slabs composing its sides remain. . One (possibly more) of the stones at the w. end was removed when the chamber was converted into a stable (*see below*). The covering slab of this chamber remains *in situ*. The intervening spaces between the uprights of the chambers were filled up with small stones neatly laid in courses.

The narrow *Gallery* on the s. is about 15 ft. in length. In breadth it varies, being 2 ft. at either end, while in the middle it widens out to about 4 ft. The sides are formed of stone slabs similar to those of the chambers, but much smaller, the interstices, as in the case of the chambers, being filled up with dry walling. At the entrance the height of the passage is not more than 2 ft., but as the middle chamber is approached it gradually increases, owing to the floor level descending, until it attains at the inner end a maximum of 4 ft. 6 in.

The remains just described, but not the whole of the site of the barrow, were, until the year 1920, contained within a rectangular area, 14 by 12 paces, enclosed by a roughly constructed wall.

EXCAVATION. 1. The cairn was first subjected to systematic excavation on Nov. 9, 1853, C. W. G. Wynne, Esq., Voelas, W. W. E. Wynne, Esq., Peniarth, and the Rev. J. Evans, Vicar of Pentrevoelas (1844-57), superintending the work. When this was taken in hand the capstone of the w. chamber, which was used as a stable, was exposed to view at the top of the cairn. The E. chamber, whose capstone was destroyed, was filled with débris, the tops only of the uprights apparently showing. The central chamber and gallery were out of sight. The result of the excavation was that the w. and E. chambers were cleared around, the latter also within, and the middle chamber and the passage leading to it laid bare. No bones, implements, or other objects of interest were brought to light.

2. Another excavation of the cairn was undertaken in 1924 by H.M. Commissioners of Works, under the superintendence of Mr. Wilfrid J. Hemp, F.S.A., with a view primarily of preserving the monument, which was in a parlous condition, from further decay. The work was carried on intermittently owing to bad weather from Feb. 27 to June 6. The first task, which proved long and difficult, was the uprooting of the trees which grew on the cairn, and the removal of the foundations of the modern wall which enclosed the site, the wall itself having been replaced by a wire fence in 1920. The latter operation revealed the interesting fact that the cairn was originally oblong, and not oval as had been supposed, and that it contained an internal circuit wall covered by the mound. This wall, which lay between 15 and 20 feet from the margin of the mound, was made of slabs of stone similar to, but larger than, those used in filling the gaps between the uprights of the passage and chambers. Three sides of the wall were straight, but the fourth, that on the E., curved inwards,

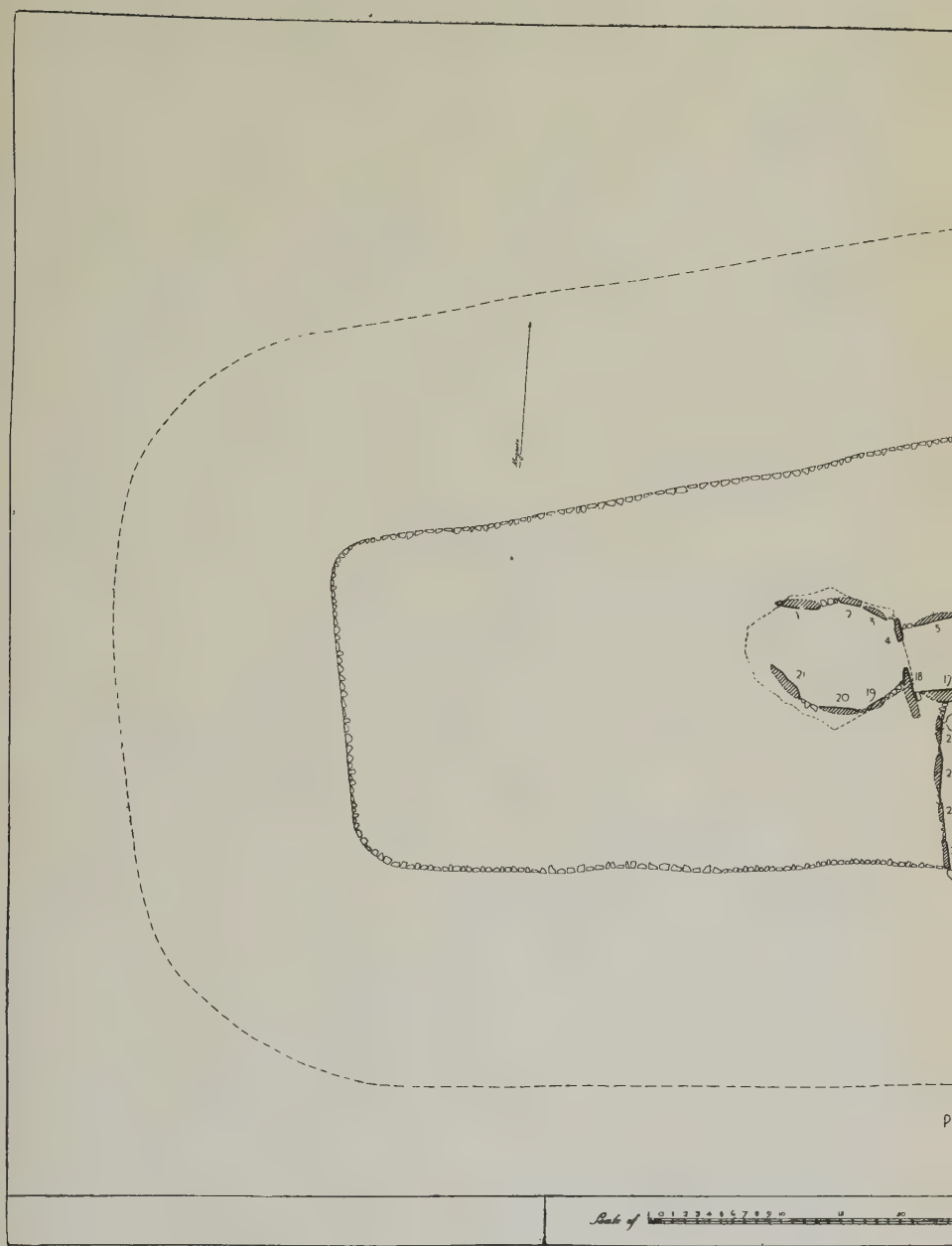
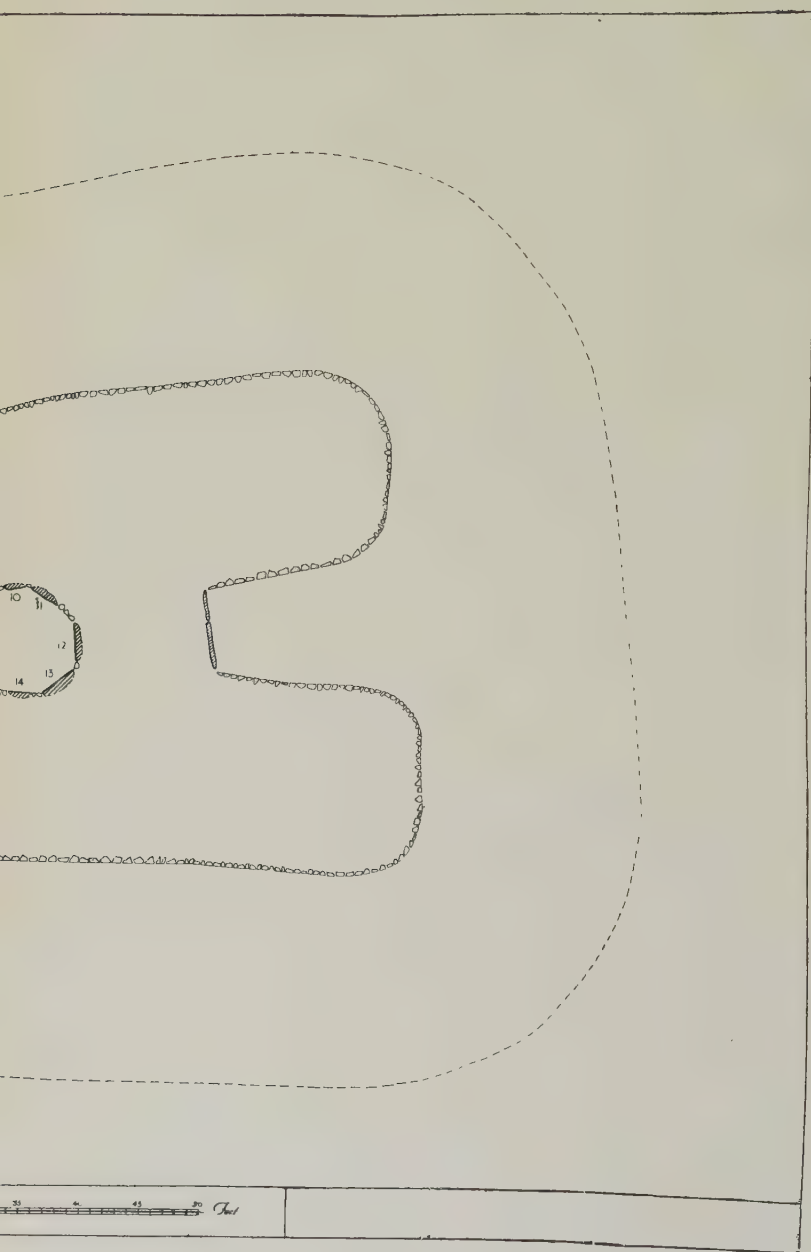


FIG. 106—PLAN OF CAPEL



'CROMLECH.'

forming two "horns" which flanked a false entrance, the true entrance being in the middle of the s. side. Examination of the area outside



FIG. 107—CENTRAL AND W. CHAMBERS: WORK COMPLETED.

this latter showed that it could never have been re-opened after the construction of the mound had been completed. How the entrance was



FIG. 108—E. CHAMBER AFTER TREATMENT.

closed did not transpire, but it may be surmised that the "door," as in other instances, was formed by a single stone held in position by the

mound. The only part of the site that was submitted to a thorough examination was the gallery or entrance passage. The s. part was



FIG. 109—E. SIDE OF PASSAGE. —

discovered to have been originally covered by a corbelled roof and the uprights were deliberately made to incline inwards. The only finds

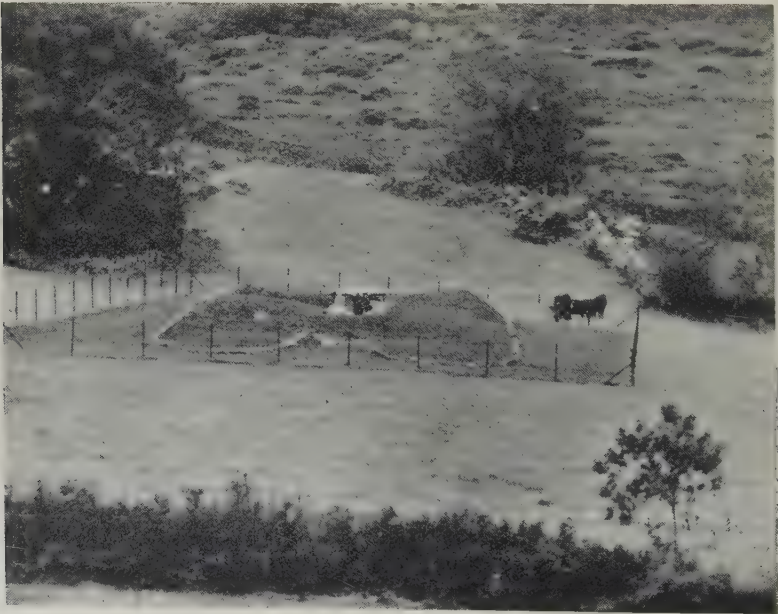


FIG. 110—TELEPHOTO. VIEW FROM E.

of any importance made in the passage were a few fragments of pottery which owed their preservation to their having been covered by fallen stones. The pottery was of two types—Neolithic and Beaker, the former being represented by only a single fragment—a coarse, black piece of pottery, and the latter by five pieces forming parts of two vessels. With the neolithic fragment was found a small flint flake humanly struck. Among the stones of the mound, just to the E. of the passage and about a foot above ground-level, two bones, but not human, were discovered. In the chambers little was done beyond rendering the uprights secure and repairing the intervening dry walls. The cover stone of the W. chamber, which was badly cracked, was given “additional support by the insertion of a light rolled-steel joist, the ends of which are buried in the mound.” A few fragments of bones, one of which was human—a portion of a skull—were found in the disturbed surface soil in the passage and chambers. One of the stones of the E. chamber was probably artificially dressed. The finds, meagre though they were, tended to show that the monument was constructed early in the Bronze Age.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES. 1. The following description of the “Cave of Tyn-y-coed in the Field of the Cave,” as it was at the end of the 17th century, is given in the *Parochialia* (Ed. Lhuyd, 1699), pt. i, p. 19 [translated from Welsh]. See also N[ational] L[ibrary of] W[ales] MS. 1506 c, p. 28.:—

“A large long carnedd of stones over which turf has grown, and on the top whereof are a few oak and mountain ash trees. The length of this cairn is 23 of my paces, and its breadth 12. As regards shape it is oval, and rises into a bank very similar to the Cairns of Hengwm in Arduwy. And just as there are 3 cromlechs [capstones] in the Hengwm Cairns so there are here: only that two have been broken lately; the third is still to be seen where it was first placed, and it is of a somewhat circular form, only that it is angular and somewhat unshapely. Its length and breadth may be about 4 yards, and its thickness a foot or less. Underneath it is fairly smooth, and there are about 11 stones supporting it. Some say that the ancient Cymry or Goidels used to have a fire under it, but we saw nothing underneath but much sheep droppings. It was one small triangular stone only we found dressed [or smoothed], and that was on the top of one of the supports, like a wedge between the support and the Covering Stone.”*

*“Karnedd vawr hir o gerrig ond bod daiar gwedi tyvy drosti ag ymbelh bren derw a chriavol ar ucha hynny. hŷd y Garnedd ymma yw tri ar higeint om kamme i ei lhed ar i thraws oedh dheydheg. Am i lhyŷn, mae hi yn Oval, ag yn kodi yn geven yn dhigon tebig i garnedhi hengwm yn Ardydwy. Ag megis y mae tair Kromlech yngharnedhi hengwm vellhy y mae tair ymma: ond darvod torri dwy o honynt yn ddiwedhar: y drydydh sydh etto i’w gweled lhe y gossodwŷd hi gynta; ag y mae hi o riw lŷn go grwn; ond i bod yn amgonglog ag yn avliniedh dhigon. i maint o hŷd ag ar draws alh vod ynghylch pedeir lath; ai thrwch droedvedh ne lai. Oddi deni mae hi yn bŷr lwvn; ag mae ynghylch fŷn ar dheg o gerrig yn i chynnal hi. Rhai y dhyweid y gnottâe’r hŷn gymry ney’r gwythelod loski tân odhi denni, ond ni welsom ni odhi denni dhim amgen na lhaew’r o galag devayd. Yn Garreg vechan tri ochrog a gowsom, yn inig gwedi i chaboli: a honno ar ben ŷn or kolovne megis yn wrthwl rhwng y Golovn a’r Gromlech.”

2. The Rev. John Evans, Vicar of Pentrevoelas (1844-57), gives a minute description of the site, as it was just before Nov. 9, 1853, in the first volume of the *Cambrian Journal* (1854), p. 73: "The leading outline of the Capel Garmon tumulus is elliptical; its greatest diameter at the base being about twenty yards, its least 13 yds. It has been reduced in size within existing memory, by using the stones for building walls. It is mostly covered with soil, upon which trees and brushwood are growing. Level with the surface of the ground is the denuded roof of the sepulchre, a flat slab of marvellous size and symmetry. Its form is rhomboid, or nearly lozenge-shaped; its length is 14 ft. 7 in., its breadth 12 ft. 2 in., or diagonally across 12 ft. 6 in. . . . Its average thickness may be about 15 inches. Under one end or apex is the entrance to the chamber, pointing s.w.; opposite the other apex at a distance of 8 ft. is a regular circle, 2 yds. in diameter, composed of seven stones about 2 ft. out of the ground at unequal distances from each other, as if some had been removed. They appear too small and low to have sustained a cromlech. . . . There are no other traces of systematic arrangement outside the mound."

Western Chamber. "A deep lane 4 yds. long . . . leads to the entrance of the chamber. This has been converted into a stable by a former tenant, provided with a framed door, near which is a small square window, and opposite the door is a stone manger. Its shape inclines to an irregular pentagon, of which the entrance forms one end. The height of the door is 5 ft. 5 in., at the middle 6 ft. 7 in., gradually increasing towards the opposite end. Its greatest length inside is 11 ft., breadth 8 ft. 6 in. The supporting stones, which in part form the walls of the stable, are 5 in number and measure respectively 5 ft. $\times$ 4 ft., 5 ft. $\times$ 2 ft., 6 ft. $\times$ 3 ft. 4 in., 5 ft. 9 in. $\times$ 2 ft., and 5 ft. $\times$ 3 ft. 6 in. They stand at irregular distances, and the intervening spaces have been built up with a wall of small stones, some of which, by their antiquated greenish colour, seem composed of a broken portion of the monument. The floor has been paved, in the course of which it is likely that some of the supporters subsided, for the cromlech does not rest equally on all. . . . All the stones of the cromlech are of the Argillaceous slaty slabs or flags with which the country abounds, of which also, in part, the carnedd is formed."

Hole in Cover Stone. "On the under side of the great cover stone is a singular round cavity about 2 ft. across, closely resembling an inverted saucer, with a clean perforation in the middle right through the stone. This was produced by some one who was barbarous enough to attempt the destruction of this noble slab by blasting; but the hole being bored too deep the underside of the stone gave way, the laminae being forced out in concentric circles diminishing upwards. . . . Another attempt was made, but, the hole being too shallow, the blast blew up the charge without injuring the stone. Some person has very lately been trying his pick upon the edge of the cromlech."

Visited several times between 1910 and 1924.

[*Camb. Journal*, 1854, pp. 73 ff.; *Arch. Camb.*, 1856, p. 91; 1888, pp. 60 ff.; 1927, 1-43; *Inventory*, No. 508, p. 142.]

TUMULUS: FARM YARD.

SITE. "Farm Yard" is the name of a farm, formerly belonging to the Belmont Estate (Lenthall), but bought by the tenant, Mr. Rd. Owen, about 1915, situated about 3 m. s.e. of the town of Llanwrst, on the main road to Abergele. The tumulus stands on an eminence, 995 ft. above sea level, in a field called Ffridd Cerrig Cae Newydd, 700 yds. slightly to the w. of s. of the house.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xi, s.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 9' 14''$; long. $3^{\circ} 45' 2''$.]



FIG. 111—URN NO. 1.

EXCAVATION. Up to 1913 this tumulus, which had been considerably reduced in size through the action of the elements and the plough, had remained intact, but on Easter Monday of that year a sepulchral urn was exposed by the present writer, who had gone to examine the mound with the object of ascertaining whether it was artificial or natural. Upon removing a few spadefuls of soil in the centre of the mound, which had just been ploughed over, traces of black ashes were noticed, together with a few fragments of a thick

coarse earthenware vessel. A little further digging, or rather scratching, revealed an urn which was only a foot from the surface. It was found to be in an inverted position and entirely unprotected by stones.

Urn No. 1. The soil around it having been carefully cleared away, it was left *in situ* until the following day, when several members of the Nant Conwy Archaeological Society visited the spot, and a photograph was taken by Mr. A. T. Hughes, Llanrwst. The urn was then bodily removed under the supervision of Mr. Willoughby Gardner and taken to Rhiwlas, the residence of the Rev. T. Roberts, R.N., at Llanrwst, where some weeks later its contents, which consisted of calcined bones and soil, were abstracted. During this operation the urn, which had several cracks when discovered, broke up into about 30 pieces.

The urn measured $11\frac{1}{4}$ in. high, 11 in. round the shoulder, and $10\frac{1}{4}$ in. round the rim. There was no trace of decoration on the rim or elsewhere.

On May the 13th the excavation of the tumulus was resumed by the following members of the Nant Conwy Archaeological Society :—Messrs. Willoughby Gardner and W. B. Halhed, Revs. T. Roberts, T. Llechid Jones (then Vicar of Ysbyty Ifan), and Ellis Davies (then Rector of Llanddoget), and two or three labourers, and continued on the following day.

Primary Burial. The outcome of the digging on the first day was the laying bare of a cairn to the s.w. of the spot where the urn already described was found, and 2 ft. or so from the centre. The cairn measured $4\frac{3}{4}$ ft. in height, 3 ft. 7 in. across, and 15 ft. in circumference, near the ground. On the E. and S., and at a distance varying from a foot upwards, was a low stone wall, a part of a circle of which there were traces on other sides. The cairn was found to contain nothing inside, but under it in a pit in the ground, measuring $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. long, 1 ft. wide, and about a foot deep, a quantity of incinerated bones and ashes (charcoal) was found.

Urn No. 2. On the second day another cinerary urn was discovered. It lay 7 ft. 4 in. to the E. of the centre and was enclosed in a *cist* of stones which measured about 15 in. by 18 in. At the N.E. corner the stones seemed missing. The capstone measured 2 ft. by 1 ft. The urn was face downwards on the ground and was somewhat damaged at the top. Like the one previously unearthed, it was very soft, especially the upper part, and had several vertical cracks. Its dimensions were : height, 10 in. ; diameter at broadest part, $11\frac{1}{2}$ in. ; circumference ditto, 2 ft. 9 in. It had a concave neck, $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide, with four lines impressed with twisted cord going right round, two at the extremities and two, about an inch apart, in the middle, forming three spaces. In the centre of the upper space (as the urn was *in situ*) was a row of tiny dots, close to each other, running round. In the middle space the marks were larger and further apart. In the bottom space were small oblique strokes. When an attempt was made

to remove the urn it fell to pieces, but fortunately a photograph of it, in its position, had been secured by Mr. Hughes, Llanrwst.



FIG. 112—URN NO. 2.

For subsequent finds in the same field see below.

[*Inventory*, No. 506, p. 142 (a short and inaccurate account).]

DESTROYED TUMULUS: GORSEDD GRUGYN.

SITE. Gorsedd Grugyn is a farm in the uplands, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. of Llanrwst. The tumulus stood on the ridge to the N.W. of the house, in a field called Ffridd-yr-Orsedd. The exact spot is about the middle of the field, where the ground slightly rises.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xvi, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 7' 17''$; long. $3^{\circ} 44' 44''$.]

DESCRIPTION. Only just a trace of the tumulus remains. When destroyed it is said to have measured about 20 yds. in diameter and $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

DESTRUCTION. The site was levelled about 1866, when Owen Williams, the father of Thos. Williams, owner and occupier, who died in October, 1923, was tenant. About 16 loads of stones were carried away at the time, and the stretch of wall, about 25 yds. in length, which forms the s. boundary of the field, built with them. Many loads have since been removed. Mr. T. Williams, who was about 17 when the tumulus was destroyed, informed the writer that there was a cist in the mound and that ashes were noticed, but he had no recollection of an urn.

NAME. "Gorsedd Grugyn" apparently means "Grugyn's Gorsedd" or "Mound," Grugyn being a personal name which occurs in the Gododin (Aneirin) [see Skene's *Four Ancient Books*, ii, 91, 103] and in *Kulhwch ac Olwen*—"Grugyn Gwrych Ereint."

Site visited June 12, 1918.

REMAINS OF CAIRN: Y GARNEDD WEN.

SITE. The site of the cairn known by the above name is on a moor now called Ffridd Hafod yr Esgob, but formerly Ffridd Nant y Cra, just at the bend in the wall which divides the said Ffridd from Ffridd Bryn Cyplau. The wall cuts off a corner of the site. The spot is some 370 yds. due E. of the ruined house of Bryn Cyplau, and about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. of the hamlet of Nebo.

The writer was conducted to the site in May, 1917, by Mr. Rowland Jones, of Tuhwnt i'r Fawnog, an elderly man, who knew the exact position of the cairn. It is marked on the Tithe map.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xvi, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 5' 22''$; long. $3^{\circ} 43' 8''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The somewhat scanty traces of the cairn which remain at present show it to have been of great size, measuring about 120 paces in circumference. A shallow ditch which encircled it remains. On the w. side of the wall a small portion of the cairn, about 4 ft. in height, has been left undisturbed. Several stones containing white spar are to be seen on the site and in the wall which traverses the same. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

DESTRUCTION. Of this cairn the late Rev. J. Evans, Vicar of Pentrevoelas from 1844 to 1857, writes in his MS. History of the Parish of Pentrevoelas and district, and in an article in the *Cambrian Journal*, vol. i [1854], p. 77 : "Two miles to the N.E. [that is, of the Capel Garmon Cromlech], on the summit of a bare hill, is Garnedd Wen, which within living memory was an immense pile of stones. . . . About 1803 most of the stones were carried off for mountain walls under an Enclosure Act. The resting-places of the dead were thereby exposed, and were found to be the usual cells or cistvaens containing bones. In one of them was found a piece of round dark coloured glass, about seven inches in diameter, and two and a half inches thick, which after being used by boys as a play-thing was at length destroyed. No other curiosities were found."

NAME. "Y Garnedd Wen," which signifies "The White Cairn," was no doubt so called from the presence of quantities of stones containing white spar. The "Carnedd Wen" in Llanrhaiadr ym Mochnant Parish may be compared.

The Rev. John Evans, referred to above, suggested that "Y Garnedd Wen" was to be identified with Carnedd Rhun (*Carnedd run*) mentioned as a landmark in this district in Llewelyn ap Iorwerth's Charter to the monks of Aberconwy, 1198 [see "Carnedd Rhun and Bedd Alarch below"], the latter, *Carnedd run*, being a scribal error for the former, *Carnedd* [Carnedd] *wen*. The existence of a cairn of the name of "Carnedd Rhun" however seems well attested. Rhun [*run* of the Charter], a personal name, once common enough, occurs also in Caer Rhun (Conovium), situated about 10 m. to the N.W.

Site of Carnedd Wen visited May, 1917, and June 2, 1925.

[*Inventory*, No. 513, p. 145, where the site is incorrectly given.]

CARNEDD RHUN AND BEDD ALARCH: NEAR NEBO.

REFERENCES. 1. A reference to "Carnedd Rhun" occurs in Llewelyn ap Iorwerth's Charter to the monks of Aberconwy, 1198, the earliest extant copy of which in the Record Office is its enrolment on the roll of 6 Edward III (1333). The passage in the Charter in which the name occurs runs thus: "Concessi . . . eisdem monachis Voelas Keirnauc and Llanveir Ryt Castell, per hos videlicet terminos. Ascendo de Abergwrysgauc per fluvium Gwrysgauc usque ad quoddam latum vadum in Blaen Gwrysgauc. Hinc per alveum usque Maenesartyr. Hinc usque Cerric Llwynogod. Hinc usque *carnedd run*. Hinc usque ad fontem subtus Moel Seissauc. Hinc usque ad summitatem Moel Seissauc, etc."

[Dugdale's *Monasticon*, 1848, vol. v, p. 672.]

2. Allusions to Carnedd Rhun and Bedd Alarch are to be found in a long letter, dated 1693, sent to Edward Lhuyd, of the Ashmolean, Oxford [*Arch. Camb.*, 1860, p. 239]. The relevant passage is as follows: "*Responsa G. R. ad Quaestiones Dmi E. Lh.* . . . Moles illae lapidum quae summitates montium tenent, ideo aggeratae dicuntur, ut sint virorum qui antiquis Britonum bellis succubuerunt monumenta, et posteris in memoriam signa ad eundem fere nunc temporis modum qui sibi mortem consciscunt in triviis humantur*. Ubi a filiis Edwal Voel and Howel Dha sanguineo praelio dimicatum est, non paucae extant lapidum moles, quae inserviunt pro caesorum monumentis, nec procul abhinc distat *Carnedh Owen & Run*; hic etiam est bron & Bedh Alarch, cujus patris Lhowarch benedictio ironica frequens volitat per ora virum. Huic loco finitima sunt Germani rostra vulgo vocata Pall Garmon (Palh Thronus Dav. Lexic)." [*" . . . At the place where a sanguinary battle was fought between the sons of Idwal Foel and Hywel Dda are not a few heaps of stones which serve as monuments of the slain; and not far away is Carnedd Owen & Rhun; here also are Bron & Bedd Alarch, the ironical blessing*

*. Ille locus vocabatur exinde Gwaed fr, sed vox nunc corrupta pronunciatu'r Gwedir.

of whose father, Llywarch, is frequently on the lips of men. Near this place is the pulpit of Germanus, popularly called Pall Garmon (Pall = "throne" in Dr. Davies's Welsh-Latin Dictionary)."]

3. The following reference to Alarch's grave occurs in the N[ational] L[ibrary of] W[ales] MS. 1565c (Angharad Llwyd : Kinmel MS. 65 [Letter dated "Llandecla, May 21, 1696"], p. 89 :—"Bedd Alarch sef mab Argiwydd Llewelin wrth y Cae haidd ymhlwy Llanrhwt" [Alarch's Grave, that is, the Son of the Lord Llewelyn, by Cae Haidd in Llanrhwt Parish].

4. In the *Parochialia* occur the entries that follow :—(a) In pt. ii [1910], p. 22, in an extract from the Bodleian MS., Rawlinson, B.464, fol. 9: "Y palh oedh gynt wrth Gappel Garmon. Mem. Gerrig ar i penne yn y dhaiar mewn lhe a elwir Ogo y Ty'n y Koed. Enquire at Rhyd Lanvair in ye way to Lh. Rwst. Q. m. from Yspytti. Karnedh Rhyn . . . A . . . rch vab Lhywarch hen [fol. 9a] un mildh. odhiwrth i gilydh" ["Carnedd Rhun and Bedd Alarch son of Llywarch Hen one mile from each other"]. (b) Part iii, p. 115: ". . . Gerrig ar i penne . . . Enquire at Rhyd Lanvair in ye way to Lh. Rwst 2 m from Yspytti Karnedh Rhyn . . . dh Alarch vab lhywarch sev haner milhdir odhiwrth'r gilith . . ."

SITES. 1. Where *Carnedd Rhun* stood it is impossible now to say with certainty. If it is not another name for *Carnedd Wen* it must have been close to it. In the second quotation given above occurs the expression "Carnedd Owen and Run." If two cairns are referred to, *Carnedd Owen* might be identical with *Carnedd Wen*, and that of *Rhun* with the cairn that probably stood a few yards to the s.w. of *Carnedd Wen* (see below), but the form of the expression, "Carnedd Owen et Run," and the singular verb, "distat," would seem to point to *Carnedd Owen* and *Rhun* being one cairn and not two.

2. *Bedd Alarch*, in the third quotation, is said to be by Cae Haidd, which is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. s. of "Y Garnedd Wen." *Bron Alarch* is an eminence, 1,242 ft. above Ordnance datum, about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the N.N.E. of Cae Haidd and $\frac{2}{3}$ m. to the S.S.E. of "Y Garnedd Wen." It is not known where *Bedd Alarch* was.

Cae Haidd was visited and search made for the Grave of Alarch March 8, 1926.

SITE OF CAIRN: BRYN CYPLAU.

A few yards to the s.w. of the site of *Garnedd Wen* (q.v.) and 320 yds. to the E. of the ruined house of Bryn Cyplau, close to the stone wall separating the enclosed land from the mountain, is a circular ditch enclosing an area about 30 yds. in diameter. The circular ditch is not now quite perfect owing to a fence trenching on the s.w. margin. There are no traces of a cairn on the site at present, but the ditch is exactly like that surrounding the base of "Garnedd Wen." Possibly "Carnedd Rhun" stood here.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xvi, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 5' 22''$; long. $3^{\circ} 43' 10''$.]

Seen June 2, 1925.

TUMULUS : HENBLAS.

SITE. This stands about 300 yds. to the s.w. of the farmhouse of Henblas, in a field called Llwyn Betws. Henblas is $1\frac{3}{4}$ m. E.N.E. of Llanrwst Parish Church. Owner and occupier : Mr. Wm. Williams.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xi, s.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 8' 41''$; long. $3^{\circ} 45' 32''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The tumulus is large, measuring about 120 paces in circumference and $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. It is much spread, turf-covered, and undisturbed. Elevation : above contour line 600.

Seen June 3, 1924. Information of it obtained from Mr. W. J. Hemp, F.S.A.

TUMULUS : SOFLAN.

SITE. This tumulus stands on the summit of an eminence in a field called Cae'r Orsedd, just above, that is, to the s.e. of Soflan farmhouse, on the left-hand side of the road leading from Llanrwst to Nebo. Soflan is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. s.s.e. of the former place. Owner in 1922 : Mr. William Davies.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xvi, s.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 5' 49''$; long. $3^{\circ} 44' 56''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The mound has a circumference at the base of about 90 paces, and is about 4 ft. in height. On the s. side are the remains of a hedge which at one time passed over the fringe of the mound. Elevation : above contour line 900.

Seen May, 1913, and Nov., 1922.

TUMULUS (?) : BRYN YR ODYN.

SITE. This is situated $1\frac{1}{8}$ m. s.e. of Llanrwst Parish Church in the middle of the third field to the n. of Bryn Derwen, on the e. side of the main road between Llanrwst and Bettws-y-coed. The field is called Pwll Monyn Bach, and belongs to Bryn yr Odyn (owner, Mr. J. H. Jones).

[6 in. O.S. sheet xvi, n.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 7' 31.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 46' 50''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The mound, which is composed of earth, slightly different from that of the field, and covered with turf, is about 140 paces in circumference, and 4 ft. in height. Elevation : above contour line 50. It is perhaps doubtful whether the mound is artificial.

Seen Dec. 4, 1925.

TUMULUS (?) : MOEL IWRCH UCHAF.

SITE. This stands 300 yds. to the n.w. of Bron Haul House, in a meadow belonging to Moel Iwrch Uchaf called Ffridd Fawr, being the fourth field to the s.e. of Tynymynydd and next but one to the road leading to Nebo from Pentrevoelas.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xvi, s.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 40''$; long. $3^{\circ} 43' 35''$.]

DESCRIPTION. If a tumulus, it is a large one, about 120 paces in circumference, and 4 ft. in height, and composed of soil. It has not been disturbed. Elevation : below contour line 1,000.

Seen July 26, 1922.

PEN Y GARNEDD.

SITE. Pen y Garnedd is a farm a little over half a mile to the N.E. of the hamlet of Nebo, which lies $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. of Llanrwst.

REMAINS. The late tenant of the farm, Mr. William Roberts (died about 1908), informed the Rev. T. Roberts, R.N., then of Rhiwlas, Llanrwst, that formerly there was a large circle—probably the remains of a cairn or tumulus—near the farmstead, the stones of which were used for re-building the house about the year 1880.

The farm derived its name Pen y Garnedd, either from the cairn in question or from that which stood on the site of Maen Pebyll, less than 300 yds. to the S.E. The latter site now belongs to Tynewydd Farm.

SMALL EARTHEN STRUCTURES : NEBO.

SITE. The remains in question are situated on the E. bank of the River Hwch, 300 yds. S. of the bridge that crosses the river a little over $\frac{1}{4}$ m. to the N.W. of the hamlet of Nebo. The site belongs to the farm of Dol Glesin : tenant, Mr. D. Davies.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xvi, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 5' 28''$; long. $3^{\circ} 44' 40''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The remains consist of (1) an earthen bank, in which are two gaps, about 24 paces long, and about 3 ft. in height and width, made at right angles to the stream Hwch ; (2) a small enclosure close to the bank just referred to, on the S., 5 yds. across, extending from the edge of the river some 7 yds. The earthen enclosing bank is semicircular at the E. end, and there is in the centre a gap ; (3) another enclosure 10 by 7 paces to the E. of the last-mentioned, rectangular at the E. end. The banks of this enclosure, into which the gap in the E. end of No. 2 opens, are not exactly in a line with those of the latter.

PURPOSE AND DATE. The purpose and date of the curious structure or structures just described are unknown. An early date is not probable.

Seen June 2, 1925, and June 10, 1927.

EARTHEN ENCLOSURE : CAE-HAIDD.

SITE. This is situated about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. to the N.E. of Cae-haidd farmhouse, on sloping mountain land to the left of the road from Nebo to Pentrevoelas.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiii, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 31''$; long. $3^{\circ} 42' 54''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The enclosure, which is irregularly oblong, measures about 50 paces in length and 15 paces broad. The enclosing bank, which is of earth, is about 2 ft. high, and has a shallow ditch on the outside. A path passes just inside the S. bank. Elevation : above contour line 1,000

DATE AND PURPOSE. These are unknown.

Seen June 10, 1927.

STONE CELTS : COEDFA.

DISCOVERY. Two stone celts were dug up by Col. S. H. N. Johnstone, of Coedfa, Bettws-y-coed, in 1880, within three weeks of each other,* and at a distance of a few yards apart, close to a tiny stream which runs down past the house on the s. side. Coedfa is on the Denbighshire side of the River Conway, in the ecclesiastical parish of Capel Garmon, just above and opposite the Waterloo Bridge. Elevation : below contour line 100.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xvi, s.w.]

DESCRIPTION. Both celts are made of a greenstone, a variety of stone which Col. Johnstone stated was not found in the immediate vicinity. There can be no doubt that the axes came from the Graig Lwyd Neolithic celt factory, Penmaenmawr.

1. One was given to the late Col. Wynne Finch (died 1903), of Voelas, where it is still kept in a glass case in the library. This is $7\frac{9}{16}$ in. long, and $4\frac{1}{8}$ in. across the broadest part near the cutting edge,



FIG. 113—STONE CELT, NO. 1.

from which it tapers to less than 2 in. at the butt end, which is chipped to an edge. Its maximum thickness is $1\frac{3}{4}$ in. ; weight, 2 lb. $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz. The more projecting portions of the surface have been ground smooth, the rest left as chipped.

2. The other, which is smaller, measures $6\frac{3}{4}$ in. in length, $3\frac{1}{8}$ in. in breadth at the sharp end, and about 2 in. at the butt end. The front part of the celt is polished nearly all over, the other end only very slightly, owing to the surface being uneven. The cutting edge,

* The labels on the axes do not confirm this statement, which Col. Johnstone made in a letter to the writer.

which is well ground, has a bit of a twist. The butt end is reduced to a thin edge but not sharpened. Weight, 1 lb. 2½ oz.

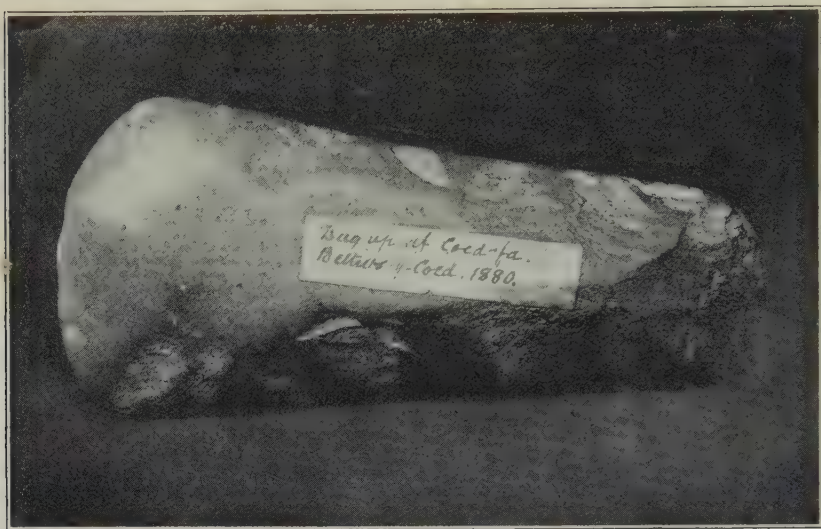


FIG. 114—STONE CELT NO. 2.

Col. Johnstone promised to leave this axe at his death to the St. Asaph Cathedral Museum. His wish was carried out by Mrs. Johnstone in Jan., 1928. The photograph was kindly supplied by Col. Johnstone in 1920.

First seen May 2, 1913.

STONE CELT : FARM YARD.

DISCOVERY. In June, 1914, while ploughing the field in which the tumulus opened in 1913 is situated, viz. Ffridd Cerrig Cauwydd

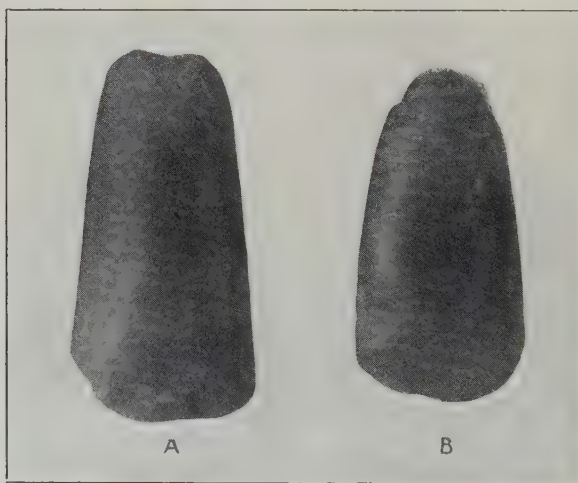


FIG. 115—A : STONE AXE FROM FARM YARD. B : STONE AXE FROM PEN-Y-FRON.

(Cae Newydd), Mr. J. W. Owen, the tenant's son, found the celt in question. It lay about 4 yds. from the tumulus.

DESCRIPTION. The implement, which is made of grey, hard, close-grained stone, in all probability from Graig Lwyd, measures about 5 in. in length and $2\frac{3}{8}$ in. across the widest part. The broad end is not finished off. The original cutting edge was probably broken off. Nearly the whole of the surface has been smoothed. Both ends are chipped.

PRESENT LOCATION. The celt is in the possession of the Rev. T. Roberts, R.N., formerly of Llanrwst, but now of Arncliffe, Rhyl, who acquired it from the finder.

Seen several times.

STONE CELTS : PEN-Y-FRON.

I.

DISCOVERY. One of these was discovered in the autumn of 1909 by the Rev. T. Roberts, R.N., then of Rhiwlas, Llanrwst, on the surface of a field to the s.w. of the house of Pen-y-Fron Farm, which is about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. of Llanrwst.

The late Mr. Robert Owen, then tenant of Pen-y-Fron, told the Rev. T. Roberts that he came upon stones which seemed to have formed a *cistfaen* on the high ground w. of the house—a very likely spot for a barrow, two fields away from where the celt was picked up. The stones in question were carted away for road metal about 1880. Possibly the celt was unearthed at the same time.

DESCRIPTION. This celt is a very fine specimen, beautifully polished all over, and possessing a well-ground cutting edge. It measures $4\frac{3}{4}$ in. in length, $2\frac{3}{8}$ in. across the widest part, and $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. in thickness. It is all but certain that it came from the Graig Lwyd celt factory, Penmaenmawr.

II.

WHERE FOUND. Another stone somewhat resembling a celt was picked up by the Rev. T. Roberts in a rut in the lane leading from Pen-y-Fron house to the fields s.w. of the house, about 200 yds. from the spot where celt No. 1 was found.

DESCRIPTION. If a stone implement at all, this is a very rough one, with an unusually blunt cutting edge. Possibly it is in an unfinished state, or was used for hammering and not for cutting. Its dimensions are $5\frac{1}{2}$ by $3\frac{1}{2}$ in.

PRESENT LOCATION. Both the above are in the possession of the finder.

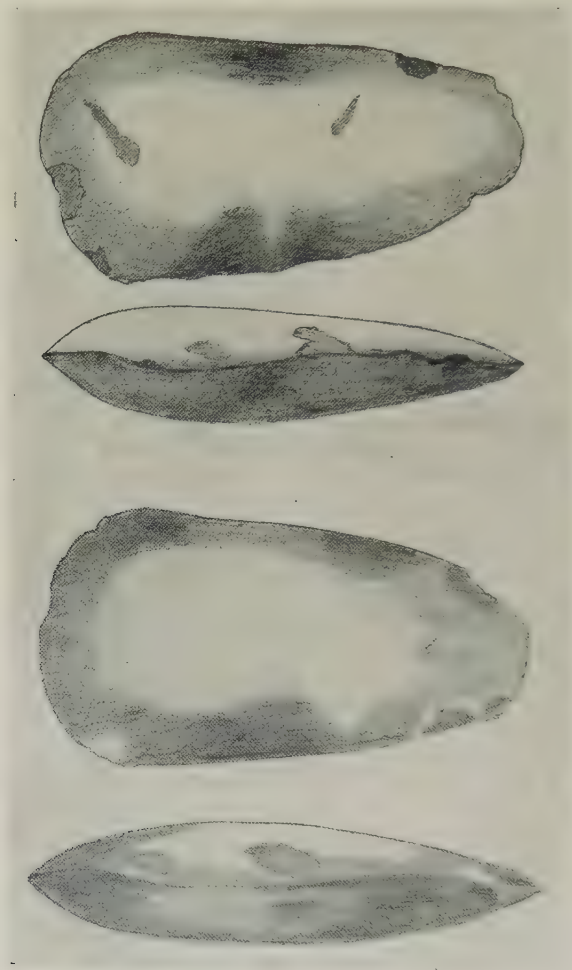


FIG. 116—STONE AXE (NO. 1), PEN-Y-FRON.

[No. 1 is referred to in *Inventory*, No. 159, p. 146; also in H.N.W., p. 41.]

STONE HAMMER : PEN-Y-FRON.

DISCOVERY. While ploughing in April, 1921, a field called Cae Melyn, about 200 yds. to the s. of Pen-y-fron, Mr. Owen Jones, owner and occupier of the farm, turned up the stone implement now to be described.

DESCRIPTION. The stone is oval in shape, measuring $3\frac{3}{4}$ in. in length, 3 in. in breadth, and a little over $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. in depth. In the

middle it has a perforation which is $\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter at the centre but widening on either side towards the two faces. The stone, which is of a light colour, does not belong to the immediate locality.

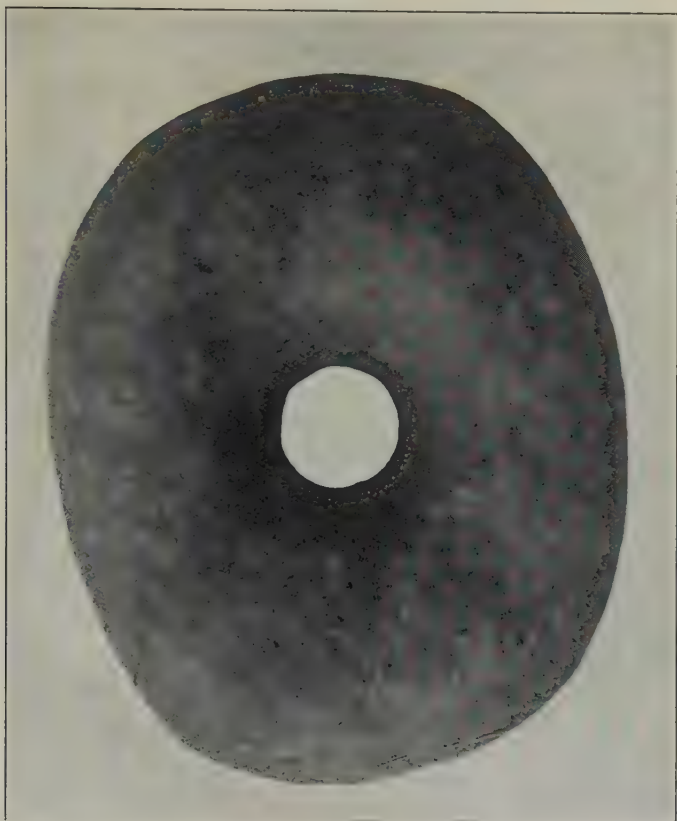


Photo. by Mr. J. R. Bruce.

FIG. 117— PERFORATED STONE HAMMER, PEN-Y-FRON.

PRESENT LOCATION. The finder presented it to the Rev. T. Roberts, R.N., Arncliffe, Rhyl.

Seen Aug. 9, 1921, and subsequently.

BRONZE PALSTAVE : CILCENNIS.

DISCOVERY. This was found in 1822 "in the ruins of the earth two yards deep," as some miners were digging and forming a puddle or washing-place for lead ore at the Lead Mine Works adjoining Oaklands, just behind (i.e. s.e. of) Cilcennis farmhouse, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. s. of Llanrwst.

DESCRIPTION. The palstave is particularly massive, weighing 28 oz., and measuring in length $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. The end of the tang is a little damaged. On the blade side of the stop-ridge on either face is a shield-shaped ornament. The cutting edge is of crescent form and well expanded. Photograph, p. 368.

PRESENT LOCATION. After its discovery it was deposited for inspection with Mr. R. Jones, Stationer, Ruthin. In 1868 it was acquired and presented to the British Museum by Sir A. W. Franks.

Seen May 15, 1922.

[*Liverpool Courier*, Nov. 9, 1822, cf. *Byegones*, Jan. 13, 1909; *Inventory*, Nov. 521, p. 146.]

BRONZE CELT : NANT CADWGAN

In the *Parochialia* (Ed. Lhuyd), pt. i, p. 23, it is stated : " Kŷn brës a gawd ar lan Nant Kydwgan yn hre y Tybrith isa ym hlwy Lhan Rwst ar dervyn tre Mathrebrwd " (A bronze chisel was found on the bank of Nant Kydwgan in the township of Ty-brith-isa in Llanrwst parish on the border of the township of Mathebrwd).

Nant Cadwgan is about 3 m. S.S.E. of Llanrwst town; it is the dingle through which the stream, Afon Gallt-y-gŵg, runs from the direction of Nebo to the Conway.

BRONZE SPEARHEAD : NEBO.

PROVENANCE. This is said to have been discovered about 1810 in a field belonging to Soflan, a farm near Nebo, some $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. of Llanrwst.

DESCRIPTION. The spear-head is leaf-shaped, with a tapering socket, roughly circular in section, extending to the point of the implement. Its measurements are : full length, 17 in. ; blade, 13 in. ; across the wings at the widest part, 2 in. ; diameter of socket at the base, $\frac{13}{16}$ in. There is a loop on one side where the blade begins, that on the other side being broken. The weapon, which is made of soft metal, weighs $10\frac{1}{4}$ oz.



FIG. 118—BRONZE SPEARHEAD, NEBO.

PRESENT LOCATION. The spear-head is in the possession of Mrs. Mainwaring, widow of the late Col. C. S. Mainwaring (died 1920), and preserved at Bwlch-y-beudy, Cerrig-y-drudion.

Seen Aug. 12, 1921.

[*Heart of Northern Wales*, pp. 46-7 ; *Inventory*, No. 520, p. 146.]

FIRE DOG : CARREG COEDOG, CAPEL GARMON.

DISCOVERY. This Fire Dog was discovered in May, 1852, by a man cutting a ditch through a turbary on the farm of Carreg Coedog, about half-a-mile to the w. of the Capel Garmon Cromlech and $4\frac{3}{4}$ m. s.s.e. of Llanrwst town. It lay on the clay subsoil, flat upon its side at a considerable depth, and with a large stone at either end of it

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1856, pp. 94 ff.]

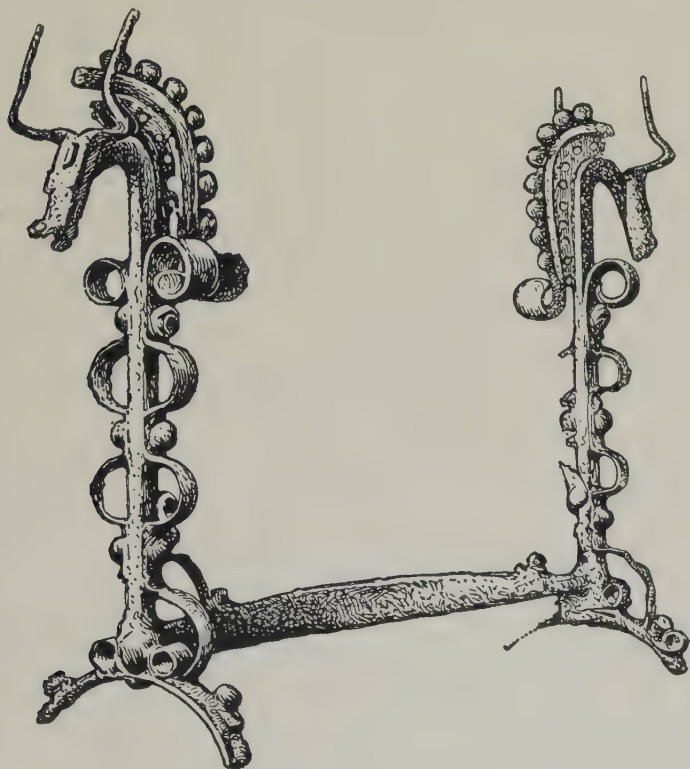


FIG. 119—FIRE DOG, CAPEL GARMON.

DESCRIPTION. It cannot be better described than in the words of the late Mr. Romilly Allen in *Arch. Camb.*, 1901, pp. 40, 41 : " The iron firedog . . . is constructed of two vertical bars $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. square, with an ornamental beast's head at the top and a semicircular arched foot at the bottom, and a horizontal bar, $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. deep. by $1\frac{1}{8}$ in. wide, joining the two uprights together, just above the foot. The total height is 2 ft. $5\frac{1}{2}$ in., and the extreme length at the bottom 2 ft. 10 in. The uprights are ornamented on each side by a thin flat bar of iron, bent

into semicircular loops with rivets between them, and spiral coils at the top and bottom. The heads of the beasts, with horns, are made in separate pieces and fixed to the uprights, which are bent over to form the neck by means of a mortice and tenon in the middle of the forehead of the beast. At the back of the neck of each beast is a cresting like the mane of a horse, consisting of a thin sheet of metal pierced with 9 holes, and a flange on the outside, having a row of 7 knobs upon it. The head of each beast is 8 in. high, and $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide across the horns."

OTHER EXAMPLES. The Capel Garmon fire dog is the only specimen of its kind hitherto discovered in Wales, but examples are recorded from four sites in East Anglia. (1) At Welwyn in Hertfordshire, fire dogs were found in a burial in association with an assortment of Iron Age (La Tène) objects, including amphorae of Italo-Greek type. (2) Near Stanfordbury Farm, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. of Shefford, Bedfordshire, a pair of dogs was discovered in 1833 in a cremation interment accompanied by a tripod of iron with a pot hanger, the rings of a cauldron and four spits, six amphorae of Italo-Greek type, vessels of terra sigillata or Samian and other ware, a bone flute, bronze jug, bowl and skillet (Roman). (3) In a burial vault at Mount Bures, 10 m. N.W. of Colchester, in Essex, a pair of dogs with brass knobs was found with two iron-bars, six amphorae, a glass bottle and bead, the brass handles, hinges, etc., of a wooden box, etc. (4) At Lord's Bridge, in Barton Parish, Cambridgeshire, early in the 19th century, a fire dog was discovered, together with a chain having six collars for conducting prisoners. It is probable that this also was associated with a burial.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1901, pp. 39-44; *Archaeologia* (1912), lxiii, pp. 1 ff.; *The Archaeology of the Cambridge Region* (1923), pp. 99-101.]

DATE. These iron fire dogs are to be assigned to the period 100 B.C.-100 A.D., the last phase of the Iron Age (La Tène iii) and the early years of the Roman Occupation [Déchelette, iv (Epoque de La Tène), 1927², p. 913]. The Capel Garmon example, being of finer and more elaborate workmanship than any found elsewhere, is not improbably the earliest in date of the series. Mr. J. Romilly Allen, in *Arch. Camb.*, 1901, p. 44, writes: "The Careg Coedog fire dog may fairly lay claim to be the oldest, if not one of the finest, specimens of native art ironwork which has survived until the present day."

PURPOSE. The fire dogs from England which have been mentioned were probably all found in graves, where they were placed with other articles for the use of the dead. The purpose which they served the living cannot be described better perhaps than in the words of the late Mr. John Ward, of Cardiff (*The Roman Era in Britain* [1911], p. 203): "These fire dogs, having double fronts, were adapted for central hearths, in this respect unlike the medieval and later, which usually had single uprights and were placed on hearths in chimney recesses. With the Stanfordbury dogs were two bars, 3 ft. $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, with terminal rings and hook-like projections on the inner sides of these. These were probably placed between the dogs, and held in position by being threaded on the horns, the hooks serving as supports for horizontal spits, and the intervening portions for hanging toasters and

other cooking appliances. Bars resting upon the horizontal members of the dogs would usefully support pans and other cooking utensils." It may be mentioned that the late Sir W. Boyd Dawkins was of opinion that these iron frames were amphorae stands (*Arch Camb.*, 1912, 105).

PRESENT LOCATION. The Capel Garmon fire dog is preserved at Voelas, the residence of Major John Wynne Finch.

Seen in 1913 and 1918.

[*Inventory*, No. 522, p. 146.]

SPINDLE WHORLS: FARM YARD.

DISCOVERY. Several spindle whorls have been picked up from time to time by Mr. J. W. Owens, of Farm Yard, in Ffridd Cerrig Cae Newydd, the field in which the tumulus excavated in 1913 is situated.

DESCRIPTION. 1. One, which was found in 1914, measures $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. across and $\frac{3}{8}$ in. in thickness. This was acquired by the Rev. T. Roberts, of Arncliffe, Rhyl, in whose possession it remains.

2. Another, which was discovered in April, 1921, is small and deep, with bevelled sides, on which a series of concentric circles has been made, with a pair of compasses, right round. The stone is reddish.

3. A third was found in 1922. Its dimensions are: diameter, $1\frac{5}{8}$ in.; depth, $\frac{3}{8}$ in. It is made of a dark stone. The hole is straight

4. A fourth was also picked up in 1922. It is made of a reddish stone, and measures $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. across and $\frac{2}{8}$ in. in depth.

Nos. 2, 3, and 4 are in the finder's possession.

Seen Oct. 24, 1922.

LLANSANNAN.

TUMULUS: BEDD ROBIN HOOD.

SITE. The remains of the tumulus known by the above name (Robin Hood's Grave) are situated $2\frac{1}{4}$ m. to the E.S.E. of the village of Llansannan, in a field, called Ffrith Wal Nesaf, on the S.W. side of the road leading from the latter place to Bylchau. The field, which is opposite the turning to Bryn Rhyd-yr-arian, belongs to Deunant Isaf Farm (owner, Mr. Edgar Williams, St. Asaph). The remains are close to the road, and some 50 yds. from the N.W. hedge. It was not until 1878 or thereabouts that the tumulus was enclosed within the field, hence Mr. Wynne Ffoulkes's statement in *Arch. Camb.* for 1851 (p. 281) that it stood by the side of a mountain road.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xiii, N.W.: lat. $53^{\circ} 10' 17.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 32' 35''$.]

DESCRIPTION. In 1851, according to Mr. Wynne Ffoulkes, the tumulus measured 30 ft. long by 20 ft. broad, and was 4 ft. 8 in. high. Its material was soil and rammed clay. When first visited by the present writer in May, 1913, it was smaller in size—about 25 paces in circumference and $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height—a part of the N.N.E. side having been cut away when the hedge was made. It was also overgrown

with bramble and gorse, and bore evident signs of having been disturbed. When visited again, Jan. 5, 1926, only a little of the fringe—about 10 yds. long—close to the hedge, remained, the rest having been cleared away about 1915 by the tenant (O. Evans). The soil of which the mound was composed differed from that of the field, being of a lighter colour. Elevation : above contour line 900.

EXCAVATION. On July 21, 1851, Mr. Wynne Ffoulkes had a trench cut across the mound from S.E. to N.W. To the depth of 18 or 24 in. from the apex the mound consisted of rather fresh-looking soil ; then a stratum of reddish clay was come to, in which “ two or three morsels of charcoal ” were found. Below this was hard rammel. No trace of a burial was noticed. Mr. W. Ffoulkes concluded that “ either it never was a sepulchral mound, or that its contents had long ago been disturbed ” (*Arch. Camb.*, 1851, p. 281). The tenant who destroyed the mound stated, in an interview (Jan. 5, 1926), that nothing out of the common was noticed.

NAME. The name by which the mound is known, viz. Bedd Robin Hood, can hardly have reference to the noted outlaw, Robin Hood, who lived in Yorkshire in the 12th or 13th century. The name should doubtless be Robin Wood, “ Hood ” being due to the Welshman’s difficulty in pronouncing *w* before the *oo* sound. The Woods were a gipsy family, well known in Wales for the last two hundred years—“ Teulu Abram Wood ” (pronounced *ood*). Abram was buried in Llangelynnin Churchyard, Merionethshire.

How the name originated does not transpire.

Until a comparatively recent date the spot was regarded by the people of the locality as haunted by a ghost. As Mr. W. Ffoulkes states, “ so much dreaded was it as the abode of unearthly beings that no one by himself dared pass it at night.”

Visited May, 1913, and Jan. 5, 1926.

[The *Inventory* (No. 530A, p. 149), while giving the lat. and long. of Bedd Robin Hood, apparently refers to another tumulus in the next field, some 100 yds. to the S.E.]

TUMULUS : DEUNANT ISAF.

SITE. This stands nearly $2\frac{1}{4}$ m. to the E.N.E. of Llansannan village, in a field called Ffrith Wal Bellaf, and belonging to Deunant Isaf Farm. The exact spot is close to the gate at the N.W. corner of the field, and about 100 yds. to the S.E. of Bedd Robin Hood (q.v.).

[6 in. O.S. sheet xiii, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 10' 14''$; long. $3^{\circ} 32' 29''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The dimensions are : circumference, about 90 paces, and height, $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. The material is a yellowish soil which is different from that of the field. It is under cultivation, but has not been otherwise disturbed except where it slopes down to the gate and where it impinges on the hedge of the road. Elevation : above contour line 900.

Seen Jan. 5, 1926.

TUMULUS : BLAEN Y CWM.

SITE. This is situated just over 3 m. s. of the village of Llansannan, on a moor variously called "Rhos Pen (or Bryn) Llwyd," and "Swch Bryn Llwyn," about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.W. of the farm of Blaen-y-Cwm.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xvii, N.E. ; lat. $53^{\circ} 8' 4''$; long. $3^{\circ} 35' 9''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The mound, which is unmistakably artificial, is a very large one, measuring 140 paces in circumference and 12 or more feet in height. It is composed of soil and covered with heather. The summit is slightly flattened but there is no indication that the tumulus has been disturbed. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

Visited March 17, 1925.

[*Inventory*, No. 527, p. 149.]

TUMULUS : "BONCYN CRWN."

SITE. This fine tumulus stands on the moor on the right-hand side of the road or track leading to Aled Lake, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. s.s.w. of the village of Llansannan, just beyond the plantation called Coed Ffridd Newydd. The elevation here is 1,256 ft.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xii, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 8' 4.35''$; long. $3^{\circ} 36' 58''$.]

DESCRIPTION. "Boncyn Crwn," as the tumulus is locally called, measures about 95 paces in circumference and 9 or 10 ft. in height. Its material is earth. A cup-shaped hole has been made at the apex, but when is not known. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

Seen May, 1913, and Oct. 30, 1923.

[*Inventory*, No. 529, p. 149.]

TUMULUS : BRYN CYNRIG.

SITE. This is situated in the third field, called Cae Maen Llwyd, to the N.E. of Cefn Treflech, but belonging to Bryn Cynrig Farm, the homestead of which is about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the N.N.W. It stands 8 paces or so from the E. hedge of the field.

[6 in. O.S. sheet vii, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 12' 46.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 34' 28''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The whole of the central part of the tumulus has been removed, leaving a low circular bank about 54 paces in circumference and from 2 to 3 ft. in height. It is not known at what time the tumulus was destroyed. When the field was ploughed in 1924 the farmer, Mr. Isaac Owen, removed a large number of stones out of the mound. Elevation : above contour line 800.

Seen Sept. 26, 1922, and Nov. 13, 1924.

TUMULUS : BRYN NANTLLECH.

SITE. The position of this is 600 yds. w.N.W. of Bryn Nantllech farmhouse, in the field called Ffridd Bellaf, close to the hedge which separates the field from a lane (on the N.) and about 40 paces from that on the W. Bryn Nantllech is $1\frac{3}{4}$ m. N.N.E. of Llansannan village. Owner and occupier, Mr. Evan Jones.

[6 in. O.S. sheet vii, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 12' 7''$; long. $3^{\circ} 35' 23''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The dimensions are : circumference, 90 paces ; height, 4 ft. It is composed of clayey soil, which is different from that of the rest of the field. It is under cultivation, but has not been otherwise disturbed. Elevation : above contour line 900.

Seen Nov. 13, 1924.

TUMULUS : CAE DU.

SITE. This stands in a field called Ffridd Fawr, which lies to the w.s.w. of the house of Cae Du, and borders on the road leading to the village of Llansannan.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xii, s.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 9' 14''$; long. $3^{\circ} 36' 18''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The measurement round the base is about 60 paces, the height being about 4 ft. It has been ploughed over as part of the field. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

It presents no appearance of having been disturbed, but about the year 1877 Mr. D. Davies, of Llys Gain, Trefriw, a relative of the tenant, Mr. Hugh Owen, dug a hole in it to the bottom, but without finding anything except stones.

Seen May, 1913, and Sept. 26, 1922.

TUMULUS : HWLFFORDD.

SITE. This is situated in the second field (Ffrith Lyn) to the n.w. of the homestead of Hwlfordd Farm, nearly $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. to the e.s.e. of Llansannan Church. The exact spot is 38 paces s. from the Llansannan and Bylchau road.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xii, n.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 10' 28''$; long. $3^{\circ} 34' 4''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The present circumference of the tumulus is about 97 paces and height $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. Owing to its having been under cultivation it is much reduced and spread. The tenant (Mr. Robt. Roberts) remembers it a good deal higher. It is composed of soil which is heavier in nature and lighter in colour than that of the field. Elevation : above contour line 800.

Seen Jan. 5, 1926.

TUMULUS : PENCLOGOR.

SITE. The position of this is $\frac{1}{2}$ m. s.w. of Penclogor farmstead, in a field called Ffrith Arw, 55 paces from the [old] road to Bylchau and close to the e. hedge of the field.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xii, n.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 10' 30''$; long. $3^{\circ} 33' 55''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This is a large tumulus composed of soil and covered with turf. The circumference is about 107 paces, and the height $3\frac{1}{2}$ or 4 ft. It has not been disturbed. The hedge referred to passes over the fringe on the e. side. Elevation : above contour line 800.

Seen March 12, 1926, and Sept. 13, 1928.

TUMULI: PENGWERN.

I.

SITE. This is situated about $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. of the village of Llan-sannan, on the w. slope of Pengwern mountain, which stands to the N.W. of Pengwern Farm, to which it belongs. The exact spot is about 700 yds. slightly to the s. of E. of Foel Bach.

[6 in. O.S. sheet viii, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 11' 51''$; long. $3^{\circ} 32' 32''$ approx.]

DESCRIPTION. The tumulus, or cairn, is a small one, measuring about 27 paces in circumference and about $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. It is composed for the most part of stones, partly covered with turf and gorse. In the centre a good-sized circular hollow has been made by a rifler. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

II.

About 180 yds. w.s.w. of No. 1 is another small tumulus, about 22 paces in circumference and 1 ft. in height. It is composed at least partly of stones and covered with turf. There is a depression at the centre. When the mountain many years ago was ploughed a furrow which made for the tumulus was diverted so as to skirt the mound.

Seen Nov. 3, 1926, and Ap. 26, 1927.

TUMULUS: PLAS NEWYDD.

SITE. This stands in a meadow, just over 200 yds. N.E. of Plas Newydd Farmhouse and $\frac{3}{4}$ m. N.E. of the village of Llansannan.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xii, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 11' 4''$; long. $3^{\circ} 34' 33''$.]

DESCRIPTION. It measures at present about 80 paces in circumference and about 6 ft. in height. It is composed of soil and covered with turf. An oak tree grows on it. There are evident indications of its having been tampered with. On the E. side quite a considerable hole has been made. Elevation : above contour line 500.

EXCAVATION. When the writer visited the spot in May, 1913, he was told by a servant man (Joseph Lloyd, died 1922) that the tenant, Mr. T. Howatson, in carting soil from the tumulus several years previously came upon some bones which were said to be human, and that this gruesome find put an abrupt end to the digging. In an interview, Mr. W. Howatson, Llansannan, son of the late tenant, informed the writer on Sept. 13, 1928, that the bones were discovered about the year 1892, and were pronounced to be human by a doctor to whom they were submitted by a young man, Archie Crawford, who had been a medical student but was then learning farming at Plas Newydd. With them were found "some old cankered things supposed to be medals." These, the writer gathered, were of bronze, and might be buckles or something of the kind. In the mound above the spot where the bones were discovered was an arch-like cover of big cobble stones.

Seen Jan. 5, 1926.

[*Inventory*, No. 530, p. 149.]

TUMULUS : RHIWIAU.

SITE. Rhiwiau, Penycefn, is situated about $3\frac{1}{4}$ m. s.s.e. of the village of Llansannan and about 1 m. n.n.w. of the Sportsman's Arms—an inn on the side of the road between Denbigh and Pentrevoelas, about 8 m. from the former place. The tumulus stands on rising ground about 100 yds. n.w. of the farmhouse.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xvii, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 7' 56''$; long. $3^{\circ} 34' 39''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The tumulus is at present oval in shape. Originally, no doubt, before it underwent excavation, it was round. It is composed of soil. Its dimensions are : circumference, about 90 paces ; breadth, 20 ; and height, 9 ft. On the top of the mound, crossways, stands a small wooden bungalow, built by the late Mr. R. Watkin Hughes, the owner of the property (died in 1916). Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

EXCAVATION. In 1851 Mr. [afterwards Judge] Wynne Ffoulkes sank a shaft at the centre of this barrow down to the original surface of the ground, but found nothing except bits of charcoal. It appeared that the mound had had a circle of large stones around it, leaning against the base.

Twice previously this tumulus had been disturbed. First about 1830, when a portion of it was carried away by a neighbouring farmer. Two urns were then found on the s.e. side, about 4 ft. below the surface. Again, at a later date, the tumulus was rifled by some treasure-seeker, who discovered an urn with bones and a bronze dagger. The urn was covered with a stone but not placed in a cist. Nothing is at present known of the finds.

When Mr. Wynne Ffoulkes was excavating Bedd Robin Hood (*Arch. Camb.*, 1851, p. 281), "a looker on . . . informed" the excavators "that he remembered some 'old pots' being found in a mound at a farm not far distant to the west." It is quite possible that the mound in question was the Rhiwiau tumulus, which is situated about $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the s.w. It may have been this information (received July 21, 1851) that led Mr. Ffoulkes to dig into the Rhiwiau mound the same summer. Mr. Ffoulkes published no account of this excavation. The particulars given above are derived from an article in *Arch. Camb.* for 1868 [p. 247], by the Hon. W. O. Stanley, entitled "Ancient Interments and Sepulchral Urns found in Anglesey and North Wales."

Visited in May, 1913, and March 17, 1925.

[Inventory, No. 528, p. 149.]

TUMULUS (?) : CAE GRONW.

In the centre of the field—Cae Hwca—to the n. of the lane leading to the house from the road, about 100 paces from the gate, is a circular swelling of the ground resembling a large tumulus. The circumference is about 90 paces and the height about $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. The soil of which it is composed seems to be slightly different from that of the rest of the field, and is more stony (shale).

[6 in. O.S. sheet xii, s.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 9' 32''$; long. $3^{\circ} 34' 11''$.]

Seen Nov. 29, 1927.

PREHISTORIC BURIAL: CEFN TREFLECH.

DISCOVERY: About the year 1853 the late John Williams (died 1882), of Cefn Treflech, which is a little over two miles, in a bee line, N.N.E. of Llansannan village, came upon a prehistoric burial in a field called Ffridd Las, which is situated about 300 yds. to the w.s.w. of the house. Williams, with whom was William Jones, of Taibach, was at the time digging up gorse preparatory to ploughing the field, when his pickaxe struck a large stone. On removing this he found underneath a well-constructed *cistfaen* with an urn inside. There was no tumulus over the grave, and of the latter at present no trace is noticeable. The stones were all removed soon after the grave was discovered.

The site is at the upper end of the field where the ground rises.

[6 in. O.S. sheet vii, S.E.: lat. $53^{\circ} 12' 35.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 34' 47''$.]

THE URN. This, which was of a dark-reddish colour, contained incinerated bones, among which was a lower jaw with teeth intact. The mouth of the urn, which was upward, was covered with a piece of slate. Unfortunately Williams left the vessel on the ground in the field, whence it soon disappeared, visitors, who came to see it from different parts, taking fragments away with them.

AUTHORITY The above particulars were obtained from Mr. W. J. Owens, Cefn Treflech, grandson of the finder, and Mr. D. Jones, son of William Jones, of Taibach.

Site-visited Sept. 26, 1922.

MOUND: BRYN YR ORSEDD.

SITE. The position of this is just to the s.w. of the Calvinistic Methodist Chapel in Llansannan village.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xii, N.E.: lat. $53^{\circ} 10' 39''$; long. $3^{\circ} 35' 50''$.]

DESCRIPTION. It is a large turf-covered mound which has been considerably disturbed. On the s.e. side a part was removed when the chapel premises were extended about 1912, and on the opposite side (N.W.) a portion was cut off many years previously when the lane leading to Hendre-lan was made. It has a height of about 10 ft. and a diameter over all of about 44 paces. Whether it is natural or artificial is a matter of uncertainty.

Seen Oct. 30, 1923, and Ap. 1, 1924.

DESTROYED MOUND: PONCYN COGOR.

SITE. The site of this is about a third of a mile to the s. of Llansannan village in an unenclosed patch of ground (a common), on the w. side of the road leading to Pentrevoelas, 25 yds. or so from the bridge (Pont Faen) crossing a tributary of the River Aled.

DESTRUCTION. The mound which occupied the site given above was first disturbed about 1893, and completely destroyed in 1920, the stones of which it was partly composed being used for the purpose of building and repairing the bridge referred to. What its shape was when intact is uncertain. It seems to have had a flat top.

Nothing of interest is known to have been found in it.

Seen Oct. 30, 1923.

GRAVES: BEIDIOG UCHAF.

DISCOVERY. About the year 1916 two graves were found in a natural mound composed of shale rock, 50 yds. or so from the front of the house of Beidiog Uchaf, by Messrs. Charles Mortimer and John Williams (Y Ffordd), both of Llansannan village, who were quarrying stone to repair the house.

DESCRIPTION. The graves, which were a yard or so from the surface, had their sides built of stone, and were covered by small slabs. Some of the stones used were different from those found on the spot, being granite. Inside the grave farthest from the house one bone—a knee bone apparently—was found. The stones of the other presented the appearance of having been subjected to fire after they had been placed in position.

Seen Sept. 26, 1922.

A GRAVE: RHYD-Y-BEDD.

DISCOVERY. About 1906 Mr. Joseph Davies, owner and occupier of Maes-y-merddyn, Llansannan, came upon a grave a few yards from the River Aled, on the N.W. bank, about 300 yds. below Rhaeadr Mawr or Rhaeadr-y-bedd, which is about $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. W.N.W. of the Sportsman's Arms Inn, on the Denbigh-Pentrevoelas road, and 4 m. S.S.W. of Llansannan village. Mr. Davies was at the time collecting stones to make a fence along the bank of the river. At the spot indicated he noticed a rough wall built parallel with a rock and connected therewith by a number of flat stones. These were the covering slabs of a grave or cist which was about 2 yds. long.

REMAINS. Having moved some of the stones, Davies noticed inside, that is, in the grave, a number of human bones consisting of portions of a skull and hand-bones. These were taken out and placed on the rock, where in a few days they crumbled to dust.

PRESENT CONDITION. The stones having been removed, quantities of rubble from the precipitous slope above rolled down and completely covered the site, so that no traces of the grave can now be seen.

The river below the beautiful waterfall, Rhaeadr-y-bedd, runs through a narrow and deep gorge, and the grave was 150 yds., or thereabouts, below the surrounding country.

NAME. As we have seen, the waterfall just above the site of the grave is known as Rhaeadr-y-bedd, i.e. the "Falls of the grave," and the ford a little farther up is called Rhyd-y-bedd—"Ford of the grave." It seems improbable that the ford and falls take their name from the grave in question.

DATE OF GRAVE. Unfortunately no data are available for deciding the period to which this grave is to be assigned.

AUTHORITY. The site of the grave was visited Aug. 20, 1918, in company with Mr. Joseph Davies, from whom the above particulars were obtained.

GREY STONE : BRYN CYNRIG.

In the field in which stands the Bryn Cynrig tumulus (q.v.), and 14 paces therefrom, is a good-sized stone, part of which is embedded in the ground. The stone is evidently an erratic. There is no particular tradition attached to it, except that several futile attempts to remove it have been made from time to time. Two or three fragments were broken off the stone fairly recently. These, in 1922, remained at its side, but by 1924 were gone. The field in which the stone stands is called Cae Maen Llwyd.

Seen Sept. 26, 1922.

FLINT IMPLEMENT : RHIWIAU.

DISCOVERY. This was found in the summer of 1924 by Mr. W. Williams, of Rhiwiau Farm, while thinning turnips in the field just beyond, that is, w. of that in which the Rhiwiau barrow stands, called Cae Pant y Rhiwiau.



FIG. 120—FLINT KNIFE, RHIWIAU ($\frac{1}{2}$).

DESCRIPTION. The implement, a small flint knife, is 2 in. long, $\frac{7}{8}$ in. broad, and $\frac{3}{8}$ in. thick at the butt end. The under side is smooth but not quite flat, while the upper side is convex and carefully worked all over by chipping.

PRESENT LOCATION. The flint was presented by the finder, March 17, 1925, to the writer, who will deposit the same in the St. Asaph Cathedral Library (Chapter House).

STONE NET-SINKER : RIVER ALED.

In the Temporary Museum held in connection with the visit of the Cambrian Archaeological Association to Denbigh in 1887, a "stone net-sinker found in the river gravel at Llansannan" was with other objects exhibited by Dr. J. Lloyd Roberts, then of Denbigh (*Arch. Camb.*, 1887, p. 363). The river no doubt is the Aled, or one of its tributaries, River Cogor perhaps. The present location of the stone is unknown.

PERFORATED STONE : RIVER COGOR.

DISCOVERY. This was found in 1925 by Mr. Meredith Owen, Ty Iorwerth, Llansannan, in the bed of the River Cogor (a tributary of the Aled), just to the s.w. of the bridge that crosses it in a lane leading to a quarry about 150 yds. s.s.e. of Cogor Isaf House and 600 yds. of the parish church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xii, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 10' 29''$; long. $3^{\circ} 25' 37''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The stone is slightly oval in shape, measuring in diameter about 6 by $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. The present thickness is $1\frac{1}{4}$ in., but it was a little more originally, for the stone has been split. The undamaged face is fairly even. In the centre is a fairly large perforation, now somewhat irregular, but originally circular, measuring about $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. at the middle and expanding towards the surfaces. Present weight, 1 lb. 13 oz.

PURPOSE. This is unknown ; unless it was a net sinker.

Given to the writer Sept. 13, 1928.

SPINDLE WHORL : CAE DU.

On August 21, 1928, a workman employed at Cae Du—John Evans—picked up a small spindle whorl in thinning swedes in Ffridd Pen Ffordd, a field between the house and Ffridd Fawr in which the tumulus [p. 348] stands. It is 1 in. in diameter at the centre, from which the sides are bevelled, and $\frac{1}{2}$ in. at the surfaces ; thickness, $\frac{3}{4}$ in. The perforation is cylindrical. It was given to the writer Oct. 19, 1928.

SPINDLE WHORLS : CEFN TREFLECH.

Two spindle whorls were picked up in 1926 by Mr. T. J. Owen, of Cefn Treflech, in thinning turnips in a field to the N. of the home-stead called Cae Glas Uchaf. One is 2 in. across and $\frac{3}{8}$ in. deep, the perforation being $\frac{1}{4}$ in. in diameter ; the other, $1\frac{3}{4}$ in. across and $\frac{5}{8}$ in. deep ; perforation, $\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter. Both were presented to the writer on Nov. 9, 1926.

LLANSANTFFRAID GLAN CONWAY.

BURIAL CHAMBER [CROMLECH] : HENDRE-WAELOD.

SITE. This monument, which is said to be known locally as "Allor Moloch" (Moloch's Altar), is situated 1 m. to the s.s.w. of Glan Conway station. It lies practically in a hedge between a field [E.] called Ysgubor Isaf and a narrow plantation [W.] formerly belonging to Hendrewaelod Farm. Being only about 200 yds. from the railway line it can easily be seen from the train.

[6 in. O.S. sheet iii, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 15' 20''$; long. $3^{\circ} 48' 34''$.]

DESCRIPTION. It consists of an immense capstone, measuring about 4 yds. long, 3 yds. broad, and from 3 to 4 yds. thick, which rests on five upright stones, four on the S. side and one low stone on the N., to which side it slopes somewhat sharply. One of the supporters on the latter side apparently lies inside the chamber, and another just

outside the n.w. corner. It is possible to crawl under the capstone. The floor of the chamber is a little lower than the level of the surrounding ground. On the e. side, contiguous to the capstone, are two upright pillars about 8 ft. high and 6 ft. apart, the southern leaning slightly to the s. It does not seem probable that these stones ever supported the existing huge cap-stone, but what purpose they served

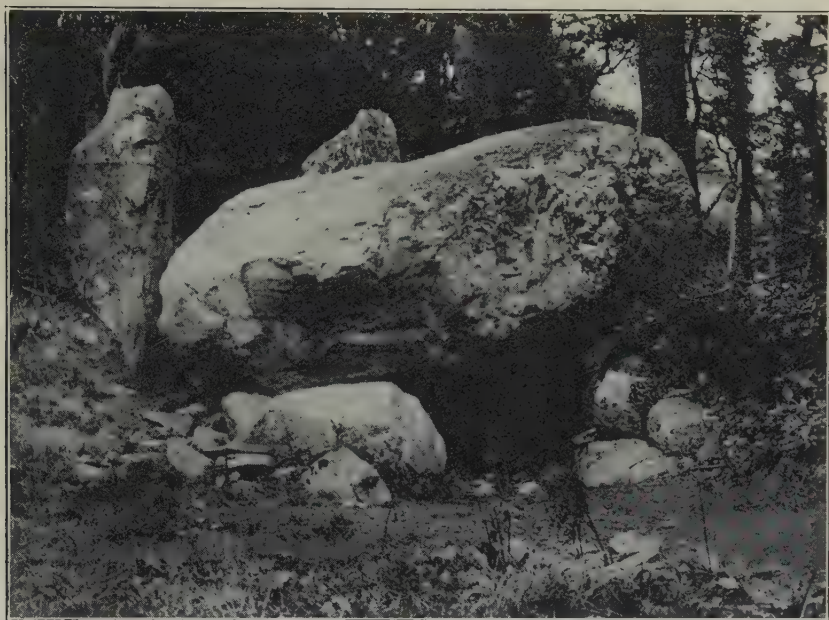


FIG. 121—"CROMLECH," HENDRE-WAELOD.

is not apparent. Single monoliths have in some instances been found connected with sepulchral structures. The Bryn Celli Ddu (Anglesey) burial chamber and Kilpaison barrow (Pembrokeshire) are cases in point. About 2 ft. to the s.w. of the s. pillar—not in a line w.th it—is a slab, about 3 ft. high, placed in the ground with another low stone to the w. It is possible that the chamber was originally embedded in a barrow or cairn, though at present confirmatory evidence is lacking. Some 6 yds. from the mouth of the chamber, in the hedge, are several biggish stones.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES. This antiquity is not mentioned by Leland (*Itinerary*), Camden (*Britannia*), or Lhuyd (*Parochialia* and Bp. Gibson's edition of Camden's *Britannia*). Pennant, Fenton, Bingley, etc., are also silent with regard to it.

The following brief reference appears in Lewis's *Topographical Dictionary*, 1842² (s.v. Llansantfrid-Glan-Conway):—"In a wood near Bryn y Pobty is an entire cromlech of considerable size." A description, with illustrations, by J. T. Blight, is given in *Arch. Camb.* for 1865 (p. 278).

Seen in 1913 and Sept. 20, 1926.

[*Inventory*, No. 542, p. 152; *Heart of Northern Wales* (vol. i), p. 16.]

TUMULUS : PEN-YR-ORSEDD.

SITE. This is situated 300 yds. w. of the house of Pen-yr-Orsedd, in a field called Cae'r Orsedd, belonging to Tyddyn Uchaf Farm. The site is 2 m. s.e. of Glan Conway Church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet iii, s.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 15' 2.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 45' 21''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The tumulus stands on an eminence (742 ft.) right at the n.w. angle of Cae'r Orsedd. A small portion of it has been cut away within recent years in cultivating the field. It is largely composed of stones intermixed with soil, and covered with turf. The present height is about 3 ft., and the over-all diameter about 15 yds.

Seen Nov. 26, 1928.

TUMULUS : GOFER.

SITE. The position is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. s.e. of Glan Conway village, in an uncultivated portion of an enclosure immediately w. of the road leading from Chweffordd to Llanellian, $\frac{1}{4}$ m. n.e. of the former place and 300 yds. of Gofer House. It stands about 145 paces from the road.

[6 in. O.S. sheet vi, n.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 14' 22''$; long. $3^{\circ} 44' 2''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This small artificial mound, which is apparently a tumulus, measures about 20 paces in circumference and $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. It is composed of soil and covered with heather. There is no evidence of its having been disturbed. Elevation : above contour line 900.

Seen Ap. 24, 1928.

CAE TRUM Y GARNEDD.

This field, Cae Trum y Garnedd (The Field of the Cairn Ridge), lies about 800 yds. to the s. of Glan Conway Parish Church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet iii, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 15' 43''$; long. $3^{\circ} 47' 42''$.]

Of the cairn which probably stood at one time in this field not a trace now remains.

Visited June 4, 1924.

A SMALL CAMP : ERW GOCH.

SITE. This is situated 2 m., as the crow flies, s.s.e. of the parish church, on Erw Goch Farm, the property of C. B. Jones-Mortimer, Esq., of Wigfair. The exact position is some 300 yds. to the n. of the house, in a small field called Y Gaer Bach (No. 1101 in the Tithe schedule). Adjoining this field to the n. is a larger field called Y Gaer Fawr (No. 1091 in the Tithe schedule). Doubtless these two fields formerly were one, and bore the name "Y Gaer" or "Cae y Gaer." When divided the smaller came to be known as "Y Gaer Bach," and the larger as "Y Gaer Fawr."

[6 in. O.S. sheet vi, n.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 14' 35''$; long. $3^{\circ} 46' 13-14''$.]

DESCRIPTION. That which gave origin to the designation "Y Gaer" here is a small circular earthwork enclosing an area about $\frac{1}{2}$ acre, which is nearly co-extensive with the Caer Bach field. The

defences consist of a low rampart, which disappears on the E. side, where there is a steep drop into a narrow dingle. On the W. side, externally, there is a sharp fall into what is at present a cart-track, formed by the removal of a considerable quantity of earth. Originally this may have been a ditch. Of the nature of this cutting however one cannot speak with any degree of confidence. On this side the boundaries of the "camp" and field coincide, but on the N. and S. sides the "ramparts" of the "camp" are inside the hedges in the field, on higher ground, and are quite distinct, though under cultivation.

[In the *Inventory* (No. 547, p. 153) it is stated that the two fields, *Caer Fawr* and *Caer Bach*, have no features that betoken defensive banks or ditches.]

Visited June 4 and July 15, 1924.

"TRUNNION" BRONZE CELT : BRYN EISTEDDFOD.

PROVENANCE. The circumstances of the discovery of this rare specimen of bronze celt are not known. The fact, however, that it was preserved at Bryn Eisteddfod, in this parish, when Mr. W. C. B. Jones-Mortimer, who inherited the property, went there to live in 1903, probably points to its provenance having been that parish, or neighbourhood. Mr. Jones-Mortimer stated in a letter dated July 25, 1925, that presumably it belonged to his predecessor, The Ven. H. Chambers Jones, Archdeacon of Essex, who died in 1869.

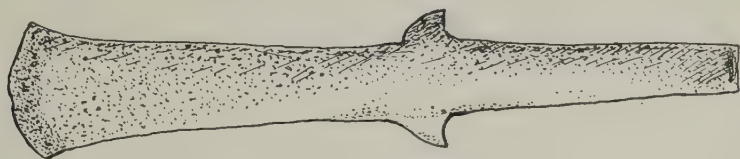


FIG. 122—"TRUNNION" BRONZE CELT.

DESCRIPTION. The celt is $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. across the cutting edge, and about $\frac{1}{2}$ in. across the butt end. Three inches from the latter end it has on either edge a thorn-like projection, designated "lug" or "trunnion," the purpose of which was to prevent the tool from slipping into the haft when in use.

PRESENT LOCATION. It is now kept at Wigfair, St. Asaph, the present residence of Mr. Jones-Mortimer.

OTHER EXAMPLES. Several trunnion celts have been discovered in England and Ireland, but only one other example has been recorded from Wales. This latter was ploughed up at Talerddig in Montgomeryshire, and was in the possession of Dr. Davies Rees, of Caersws, until his death in 1925. This is smaller than the Glan Conway specimen, and has its butt end sharpened. Its "trunnions" are also different.

[*Anti. Journal*, Jan., 1925, pp. 51 ff.; *Arch. Camb*, 1924, pp. 326 ff. (articles by Mr. W. J. Hemp, F.S.A., from which most of the above particulars have been derived).]

LLANSANTFFRAID GLYN CEIRIOG.**TUMULUS: TOMEN-Y-MEIRW.**

SITE. The tumulus bearing the name "Tomen-y-Meirw" is situated on high ground about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the N.E. of Plas Nantyr, and $2\frac{3}{4}$ m. W. of the parish church of Llansantffraid Glyn Ceiriog. The land on which it stands belongs to Tyn-y-Twmpath Farm (owner: Charles Storey, Esq., Plas Nantyr).

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxix, s.w. : lat. $52^{\circ} 56' 1''$; long. $3^{\circ} 14' 50''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The tumulus, which is composed of soil, is about 70 paces in circumference, and about 8 ft. in height. It has been much disturbed, a hole having been dug into it on E. side. In the hollow made, at the centre, are a good many stones, none however large enough to have formed part of a cist. There is no authentic information as to when and by whom the digging was done. In a letter dated Sept. 2, 1926, Mr. Charles B. V. Storey, of Plas Nantyr, states that his old bailiff, Samuel Davies, of the Gelli, aged 82, told him that the mound was opened by two men living at Penyfedw. Nothing was found, but one is supposed to have gone back and found something, as he appeared to be unusually "flush of cash" later on! As a boy Mr. Storey heard that 40 or 50 years previously the tumulus was dug by two farm hands, who found a skull with red hair on it and ran away scared! Elevation: above contour line 1250.

NAME. "Tomen y Meirw" means "The Tump of the Dead." This name may preserve a tradition that human remains were at some time found in the tumulus. It is also called "Tomen Farrog" (The Spur Tump).

Visited Nov. 7, 1917.

[*Inventory*, No. 548, p. 153.]

BRONZE PALSTAVE.

In the Catalogue of the Temporary Museum held in connection with the visit of the Cambrian Archaeological Association to Haverfordwest in 1864 appears this item: "Paalstab from Glyn Ceiriog near Llangollen . . . Rev. E. L. Barnwell" (*Arch. Camb.*, 1864, p. 360, cf. 1863, p. 377). No further particulars are known.

LLANSILIN.**REMAINS OF CAIRN: MYNYDD Y BRYN.**

SITE. These remains are to be seen in the fifth field to the S.S.W. of Bryn Glas—the second to the N.N.W. of Tanygraig. The exact spot is about 380 paces from the N. hedge of the field, and 100 from the E. hedge, which is the boundary between Denbighshire and Salop. The field goes with Tanygraig Farm. Owner: Capt. J. Lawton Hamer.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xlv, N.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 49' 31''$; long. $3^{\circ} 9' 42''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The remains of the cairn are at present somewhat meagre, and consist of only small stones, the larger ones having been carried away at different times for building and other purposes. The diameter is about 9 yds. Originally the circumference would be about 36 yds.

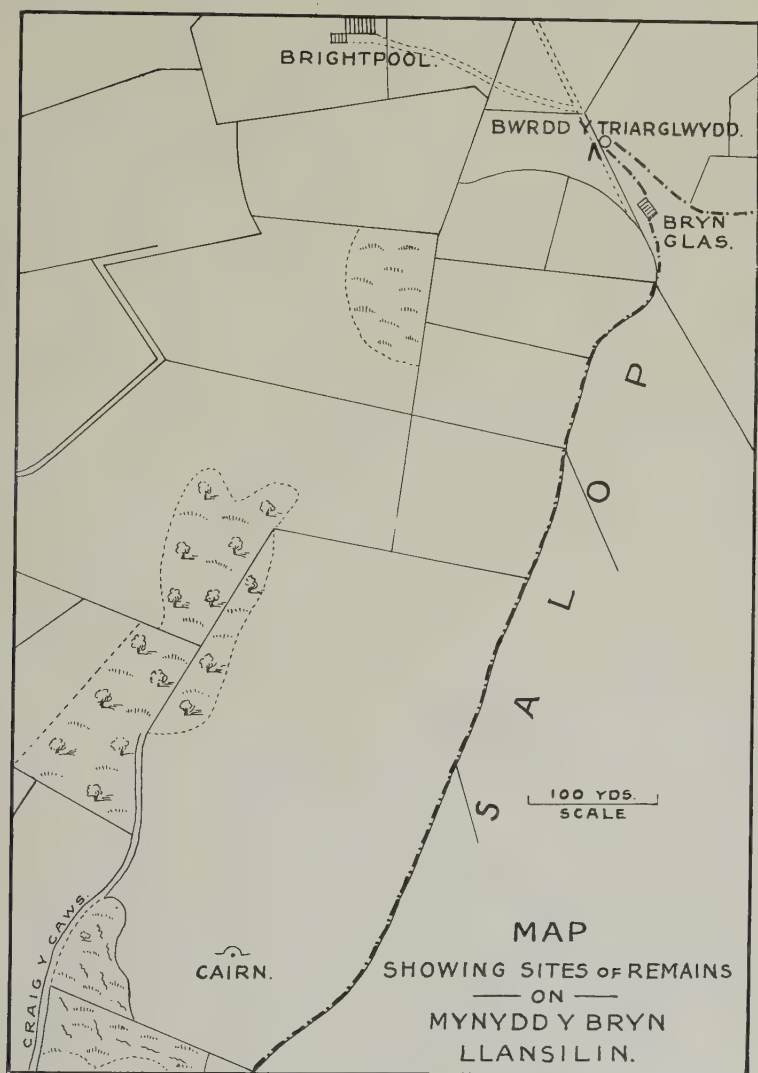


FIG. 123.

FIND. In 1840, while moving some of the stones to erect the wall which marks the boundary between Denbighshire and Shropshire, 100 yds. to the E., the late William Jones, of Gravel Hill, and the late David Jones, of Bryn Glas, father-in-law to Mr. Thomas Morris, of the same place (died about 1919), came upon a small urn in an inverted position, enclosed in a *cist* made of slabs and covered with a large stone. Mr. T. Morris informed the writer that the urn contained

incinerated bones. Soon after the discovery D. Jones disposed of the vessel to the late John Hamer, Esq., of Glan'rafon Hall.

Beaker. The vessel, which was a beaker, measured $4\frac{7}{8}$ in. in height, $4\frac{1}{4}$ in. in diameter at the widest part, and 3 in. across the base. It was reddish brown in colour, of hard and close texture, and well fired. The whole surface was covered with ornamentation. Below the neck, which had four mouldings, two plain and two marked with lines across, were two bands of a peculiar pattern not unlike imitation basket work. Around the widest part at the middle were more mouldings, below which was another cordon of "basket pattern." On the lowest part, separated from the last cordon by mouldings, was a series of chevrons. The ornamentation "was wrought in a somewhat unusual manner, not being impressed or scored, as in most examples, but tooled or chased with considerable skill." The vessel was badly cracked, and had a large hole in one side.

Beakers are, as a rule, found in association with unburnt bodies.

SUBSEQUENT HISTORY. At the death of Mr. J. Hamer, of Glan'rafon Hall, the beaker came into the possession of his eldest son, Capt. J. Lawton Hamer, who had it preserved at Bronheulog Lodge, Llansilin. When the latter residence was gutted by fire in October, 1924, the beaker was destroyed.

Cairn visited May, 1913, and several times subsequently. Urn seen at Bronheulog in Sept., 1916.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1868, pp. 268 f.; *Inventory*, No. 552, p. 154 (incorrect); *Bronze Age Pottery* (Abercromby i, 27, 88, pl. x, No. 95.)]

DESTROYED CAIRNS AND CIRCLE: MYNYDD Y BRYN.

The Rev. Walter Davies (Gwallter Mechain), Vicar of Llanrhaiadr ym Mochnant from 1837 to 1850, makes the following reference in his History of Llansilin Parish [see his published Works, vol. iii, p. 37] to a circle and cairns on Mynydd y Bryn: "On ascending from Sycharth . . . to Mynydd y Bryn, we come to a part of it called Craig y Caws. According to Camden, Michael's Mount in Cornwall was anciently called by the inhabitants Careg Cowse, which he interpreted 'hoary rock'. . . . Under Craig y Caws, to the S.E., are seven or eight *carneddau*, or heaps of loose stones; and in the centre, between them, is a perfect circle of loose stones, about 40 paces in diameter, the area perfectly level, without any traces of additional stones within. On inquiry, we found by one peasant that the name of the circle was Buarth y Geini, and by another, Buarth y Geifr, either of which may afford a precious 'morsel of criticism' for the ingenious mythologist. These monuments are in the silicious tract."

The antiquities referred to by the Rev. Walter Davies no longer exist. The writer on two occasions—the later being Nov. 20, 1923—made careful search for them at the spot indicated and around, but without avail.



FIG. 174.—SHAVEN FROM HYNYDD-Y-DEYH CAIRN (11)

STONE AND BRONZE IMPLEMENTS: TYNEWYDD.

DISCOVERY. These implements were found together in 1852 (presumably) in moving an accumulation of stones, apparently not a

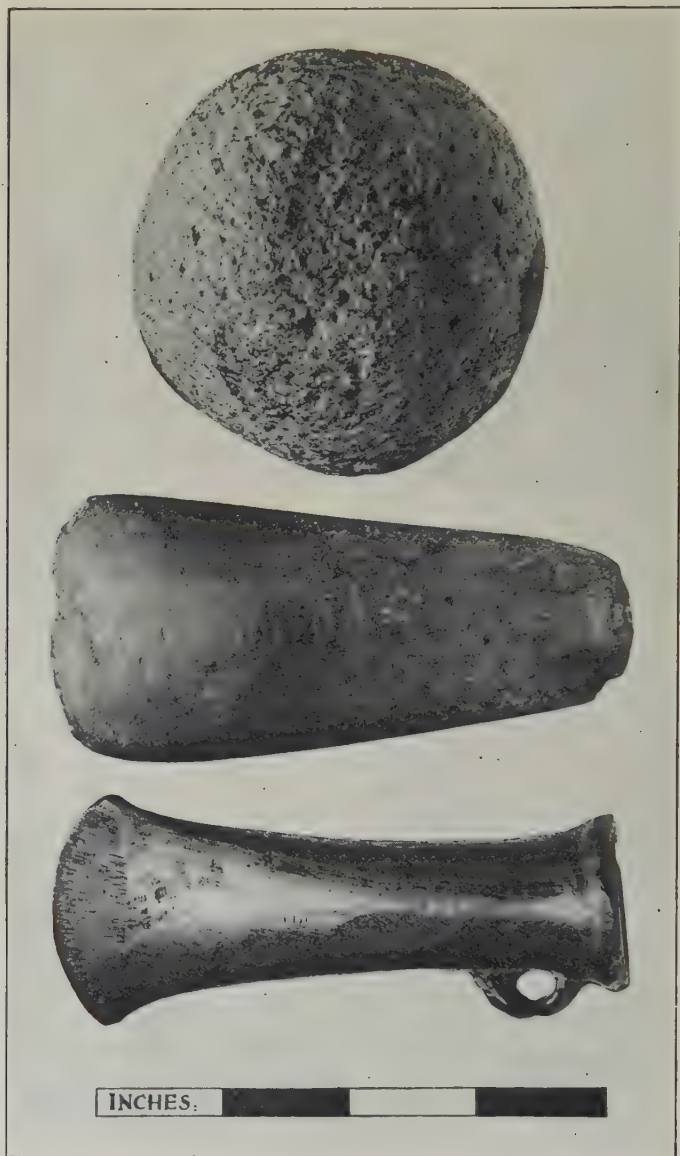


Photo. kindly supplied by the National Museum.

FIG. 125—STONE AND BRONZE IMPLEMENTS, TYNEWYDD.

cairn, at Tangraig-y-Castell, a cottage—now in ruins—on Tynewydd Farm, 1 m. s. of Llansilin village.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xlv, N.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 50' 3''$; long. $3^{\circ} 10' 13''$.]

DESCRIPTION. 1. The *stone* implement is a polished celt "of the simplest form, of close-grained green stone" (presumably Y Graig Lwyd rock), $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, $2\frac{3}{8}$ in. across the widest part, and $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. across the butt end.

2. The *bronze* weapon is a socketed celt with loop, $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. in length and $1\frac{3}{4}$ in. across the cutting edge. It lay about 3 ft. beneath the surface.

SUBSEQUENT HISTORY. These implements came into the possession of the late W. W. E. Wynne, Esq., of Peniarth, Merionethshire, and were preserved at Peniarth until 1920, when they were presented as part of the Peniarth collection of antiquities to the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff.

Spot visited Sept., 1916.

[*Arch. Journal*, vol. x, 160-1 (W. W. E. Wynne); *Ancient Stone Implements* (Evans), p. 143; *Arch. Camb.*, 1856, p. 125; *Inventory*, No. 565A, p. 158.]

HAMMER STONE: TYNEWYDD.

DISCOVERY. This was found in 1852 near Craig y Castell, some 300 yds. to the E.S.E. of Tynewydd, Llansilin.

DESCRIPTION. The object in question is "a spheroidal ball of stone, of slightly depressed form, the greater diameter being about 3 in." It was supposed by Mr. W. W. E. Wynne, of Peniarth, to have been "a muller for pounding grain." In all probability it was used as a hammer.

PRESENT LOCATION. It is now preserved at the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff, having been presented with other antiquities in 1920 by Mrs. W. Wynne, of Peniarth, Merionethshire.

For photograph, see Fig. 125.

[*Arch. Journal*, vol. x, pp. 64, 160; *Inventory*, No. 565A, p. 158.]

QUERN STONE (?): RHIWLAS.

DISCOVERY. The stone object in question was found about 1907 by Mr. Thomas Griffith, Bryn Hafod, Rhiwlas, in the hedge of the field called Cae Twmpath, which is on the opposite side of the road to Maen Silio.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xlii, N.W.: lat. $52^{\circ} 52' 45''$; long. $3^{\circ} 11' 35''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The stone is circular in shape, measuring about 24 in. in diameter and $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. thick. In the centre is a hole 3 in. across. In the *Inventory* of the Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments (No. 566, p. 158) it is described as "a perfect upper stone of a quern." It is, however, anything but perfect, both surfaces being very irregular and uneven.

PRESENT LOCATION. The stone lay leaning against the front of Bryn Hafod House until May, 1928, when it was removed for preservation to Rhiwlas Mission Church.

Seen Sept., 1916.

"BWRDD Y TRI ARLWYDD": BRYN GLAS.

POSITION. The "Bwrdd," which is a large stone, lies on the boundary between Denbighshire and Shropshire, at the point of a wedge-shaped projection of the latter county into the former, just behind Bryn Glas, a house on Mynydd y Bryn, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.S.E. of Llansilin village.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xlv, N.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 49' 49''$; long. $3^{\circ} 9' 28''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This stone formerly marked the meeting point of three manors—Cynlleth yr Iarll, Cynlleth Owen, and Deheubarth or Cynlleth Powys—which belonged respectively to Chirk Castle, to Owen, Son of Madoc of Castell Dinas Bran, and to the Earl of Powys (Salop portion).

Possibly this stone was at one time a maenhir and stood erect. It is about 9 ft. in length.

Seen in May, 1913, and subsequently.

[*Inventory*, No. 552, p. 154.]

LLANTYSILIO YN IAL.

TUMULUS: MOEL Y GAMELIN.

SITE. This is situated on the summit of Moel y Gamelin (altitude, 1,897 ft.), which is about $2\frac{1}{4}$ m. to the N.N.W. of Llantysilio Church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiv, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 0' 34''$; long. $3^{\circ} 13' 40''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The tumulus is a fine one, measuring 86 paces in circumference, and 8 or 9 ft. in height. It is composed of soil identical with that to be found on the mountain around. It has not been disturbed. A small heap of stones (modern) has been raised on the top.

Seen Oct. 11, 1923.

TUMULUS OF ELISEG: VALLE CRUCIS.

SITE. The tumulus here referred to, which is surmounted by the Pillar of Eliseg, is in a field on the right hand of the road that leads from Llangollen past Valle Crucis Abbey, about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.W. of the latter place. It stands quite near the road.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiv, N.W. : lat. $52^{\circ} 59' 30.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 11' 17''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The tumulus is composed of soil in which several large stones can be seen embedded. The circumference is about 70 paces, and the height 6 or 7 ft. It is covered with turf. Elevation : above contour line 400.

EXCAVATION. The mound was partially excavated prior to 1779, the date of the restoration to its original position of the pillar (*see* inscription) which had been thrown down and broken during the civil war of the seventeenth century. The only account of the excavation apparently is that to be found in a small book entitled *Some Account of Llangollen and its Vicinity* by W. T. Simpson (1st ed.,

1827, 2nd, 1845), p. 71, which runs as follows :—" I was so fortunate as to meet with two persons who assisted in opening the tumulus before the pillar was re-erected ; and they gave me the following account :—On digging below the flat pedestal in which the base of the Pillar had been inserted, they came to a layer of pebble stones ; and after having removed them to a large flat slab, on which it seems



FIG. 126—ELISEG PILLAR TUMULUS.

the body had been laid, as they now found the remains of it, guarded round with large flat blue stones, and covered at the top with the same ; the whole forming a sort of stone box or coffin. The bones were entire, and of very large dimensions. The skull and teeth, which were very white and perfect, were particularly sound. My informants said they believed the skull was sent to Trevor Hall, but it was returned, and again deposited with the rest of the bones in its former sepulchre. By this it should seem that Eliseg was not an old man when he was buried here. . . . One of the persons who assisted at the exhumation is now a very old man, and was huntsman to Mr. Lloyd [of Trevor Hall] when the tumulus was opened. He says there was a large piece of silver coin found in the coffin, which was kept ; but that the skull was gilded to preserve it, and was then again deposited with its kindred bones. I asked if the bones were sound, and he answered (I give his own words), ' O, no, sir ; they broke like gingerbread '."

PREVIOUS REFERENCES. Edward Lhuyd, in a letter dated Sept. 14, 1696, thus alludes to the mound : " It [the pillar] was erected on a small mount, which seems to have been cast up for that purpose, but in the late civil warres (or sooner) 't'was thrown down and broken in several pieces" (*Harley MS.*, 3780, fo. 94 : *Catalogue of the MSS. relating to Wales in the British Museum*, i, 410).

In the *Parochialia* (pt. i, p. 123) appears this note : " A small mount on Maes y Groes where Eliseg's pillar was erected."

In his *Tours in Wales* (vol. ii, p. 9), Pennant thus refers to the excavation already described: "Within these few years the *tumulus* was opened, and the reliques of certain bones found there, placed as usual in those days between some flat stones."

Fenton (*Tours in Wales*, p. 137) writes: "Exactly opposite the 3rd Milestone from Llangollen, to the right in a Field, stands the Pillar of Eliseg on a square Pedestal surmounted on an elevated heap like a Tumulus."

DATE. In appearance and size this mound differs not at all from a Bronze Age tumulus. Possibly Eliseg's remains were interred in an existing tumulus. The bones exhumed before 1779 might be those of Eliseg, who lived in the ninth century, or they might belong to the Bronze Age, at the beginning of which at all events burials by inhumation took place. The finding of a large silver coin, however, in the cist, if authentic, militates against a Bronze Age date for the interment.

Visited May 4, 1920.

[*Inventory*, No. 567, p. 159; *Arch. Camb.*, 1909, p. 43.

CAMP: MOEL Y GAER.

SITE. This camp crowns the summit of Moel y Gaer, locally known as Moel Penbedw, which is one of the hills constituting the Llantysilio Mountain, being about 2 m. N.N.W. of the parish church. It stands immediately to the w. of Moel Gamelin, and is over 1,400 ft. above Ordnance datum.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiv, N.W.: lat. $53^{\circ} 0' 26-30''$; long. $3^{\circ} 14' 26-34''$.]

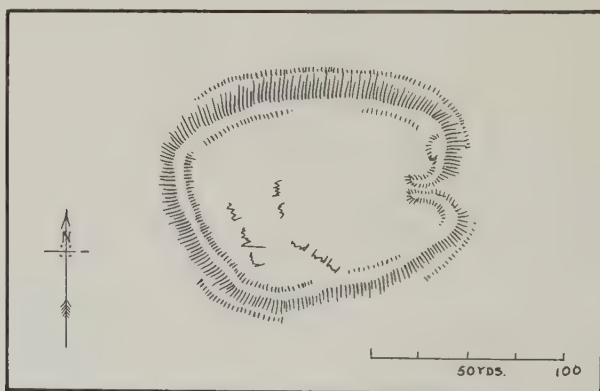


FIG. 127—MOEL Y GAER CAMP LLANTYSILIO.

DESCRIPTION. The defences of the fort, which is more or less oval in shape, consist of a single rampart of earth and rubble, with a discontinuous shallow depression on the inside, and a ditch, also discontinuous, on the outside. On the w. the latter is altogether absent. The rampart, which is nowhere very strong, is rather weak on s. side, where the declivity is sharp. On the N. side the agger is stronger and the distance from the top of it to the bottom of the

exterior fosse is 7 or 8 ft. The entrance is on the E. side, where the rampart on either side curves inwards for about 20 paces, forming a narrow passage about 3 yds. wide. It is just possible that there was another entrance at the N.W. corner where the ditches are wanting, though at present the rampart shows little evidence of interruption. Twenty yards to the N. of the main entrance, on the rampart, is a circular mound. The area inside the enclosure—about 2 acres—is uneven and barren, the rock cropping out in several places. There is no spring in the interior.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. The Rev. J. Lloyd, of Ruthin, in a letter to Ed. Lhuyd, dated Dec. 22 [1693] (Ashmole MSS., vol. 1816, fol. 233), writes: "I lodged last night . . . near Bryn Eglwys . . . I walked above 5 m^s this morning to find out Moel-y-Gaer near Moel Forfydd, and for want of a better Guide miss'd it at last, it stands upon y^e top of y^e mountain between Yale and Chirk or Llangollen, and by their acc^t it has a ditch always full of water and an entrance sloping thus [sketched], as y^e fellow describ'd it."

Inspected Nov. 19, 1918, and Sept. 30, 1926.

[*Inventory*, No. 568, p. 160.]

BONCYN GEFEILIAU : RHEWL.

REFERENCE. In the *Parochialia* (i, pp. 122–3) appears this note under Lhan Dyssilio: "N.B. There's a place call'd y Geveliae, where 'tis supposed there have been forges. There's a green or Bank viz. Twmpath chware hard by it call'd Heol y Geveliae."

SITE. The Green or Bank referred to by Lhuyd or his correspondent as being a "Twmpath chwaræ" (Play Mound) is no doubt to be identified with the spot now called "Boncyn Gefeiliau." This is the open space including the road and site of the hearse shed at the highest part of the hamlet of Rhewl (Yr Heol) just to the N.W. of the gateway leading to Gefeiliau Farm, which is close by. At present there are no certain remains of a mound or twmpath at the spot indicated.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiv, N.W. : lat. 52° 59' 42" ; long. 3° 13' 6".]

Visited Jan. 16, 1929.

TWMPATH : COED IAL.

"Twmpath" is the name at present borne by two cottages belonging to Mr. E. H. J. Roberts, of Coed Ial, which is close by. In front of these, that is to say, to the E. and N.E., are two small fields surrounded by roads. Formerly this land was unenclosed. Almost opposite the cottages, in the N. field, close to the hedge dividing it from the smaller field, is a natural mound of irregular shape. The name "Twmpath" may have been applied to this originally.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiii, S.E. : lat. 52° 58' 47" ; long. 3° 15' 27".]

Spot visited Jan. 24, 1928.

BRONZE AXES, ETC.

PROVENANCE. All that is known of the history of the implements about to be described is that they were discovered in the parish of Llandysilio, Denbighshire. Local inquiries in the parish have failed to elicit any information regarding the discovery.

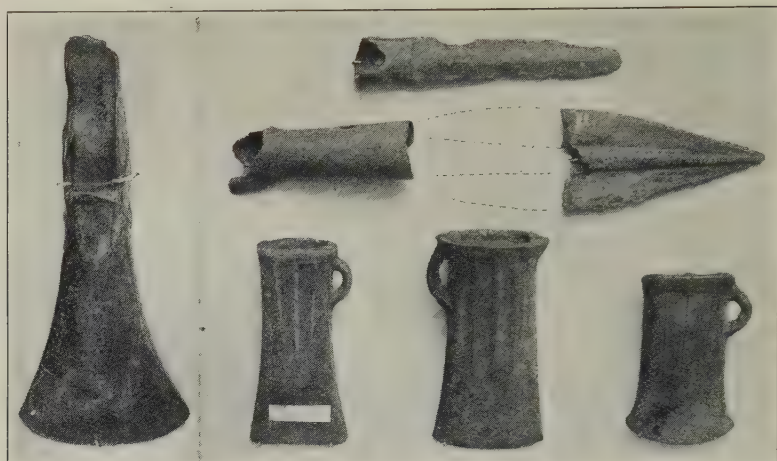


FIG. 128—THREE SOCKETED CELTS, KNIFE AND SPEARHEAD (LLANTYSILIO), AND PALSTAVE FOUND AT CILCENNIS, LLANRWST.

DESCRIPTION. 1. Bronze flanged axe, $6\frac{1}{8}$ in. long, with 3 ribs below the stop-ridge [*vide* Evans's *Ancient Bronze Implements* (1881), p. 93].

2. Socketed axe with 3 ribs, 4 in. long [Evans, p. 119].

3. Socketed axe with 3 converging ribs, $3\frac{3}{4}$ in. long [Evans, p. 119].

4. Socketed axe, with 3 converging ribs, $3\frac{1}{4}$ in. long [Evans, p. 119].

5. Socketed knife, with one hole, imperfect, now $4\frac{5}{8}$ in. long [Evans, p. 206].

6. Spear-head, leaf-shaped, imperfect [Evans, p. 119].

PRESENT LOCATION. All the above were bought of Mr. Bryce Wright, Dealer, Great Russel Street, London, by the late Canon W. Greenwell (died, January, 1918), of Durham, and are now in the British Museum as part of the "Greenwell Collection," in which their numbers are 84 (= No. 1 described above); 182-184 (=2-4); 36 (=5); 11 (=6).

No. 1 described above, 84 in the Collection, was not found with the others (which formed a small hoard) but separately, though in the same parish.

AUTHORITY. Most of the above particulars were communicated to the writer by Canon Greenwell in a letter dated, "Durham, May 7, 1913."

Seen at the British Museum May 15, 1922.

[*Inventory*, No. 578, p. 165.]

BRONZE SOCKETED CELT.

PRESENT LOCATION. This forms part of the collection of stone and bronze implements presented by Sir A. J. Evans to the Ashmolean Museum in 1927. Its number is 2667.

DESCRIPTION. The following description is given in the Museum Catalogue :—"Axe, bronze, green patina, looped and socketed, squarish mouth, small collar moulding below, with 3 dependent ribs, chipped. L. .092 [$3\frac{11}{16}$ in.], W. .048 [$1\frac{3}{4}$ in.], T. .40 [$1\frac{5}{8}$ in.]. Photo, Fig. 17.

PROVENANCE. On the label is: "Llantysilio, Wales." John Evans, in his *Ancient Bronze Implements*, 1881, p. 119, writes with reference to it: "I have one [bronze looped socketed celt, $3\frac{5}{8}$ in. long] from Llantysilio, Denbighshire."

Seen June 26, 1928.

TORCS: TAN-Y-LLWYN.

In the *Parochialia* (i, 123) the following statement appears :—"There were two Torques found in a field by Dee side, call'd Tan y Lhwyn, exactly agreeable to that in Cambden [corrected 'Camden' in ii, 9], but of a bright yellow brass. Qy Mel[sius] de Metallo [Make further inquiries about the metal].

"That in Camden" apparently is the one discovered near Harlech Castle in 1692 and described by Lhuyd himself in Gibson's edition of Camden's *Britannia*, 1695, p. 658, now at Mostyn Hall. An illustration appears in Pennant's *Tours* (ii, 278 oppos.), in Gough's edition (1789) of *Britannia*, vol. iii, p. 542, and in Dr. Mortimer Wheeler's *Prehistoric and Roman Wales* (1925), p. 173.

BRONZE VESSELS: COED IAL.

DISCOVERY. Four bronze skillets were discovered in 1879 by two workmen, Thomas Hughes, who died many years ago, and Robert Roberts, living in Liverpool (in 1918), while cutting the foundation of the new house at Coed Ial Farm for the late Mr. David Roberts, the father of the present owner and occupier, Mr. Edward W. J. Roberts. The vessels when found were placed one inside the other. That numbered 3 below was in No. 1. Nos. 1 and 2 being equal in size, the bowl of the former was only partly inside the latter, the handle of No. 1 tilting down to that of No. 2. The part of No. 1 which was inside No. 2 is far less corroded than the remainder. The outer vessel, No. 4 below, being very thin and brittle, was broken up by the pick of the workman and only one fragment now remains.

The exact spot where the vessels were found was just under the window to the E. of the front door. Coed Ial is a quarter of a mile N.E. of Glyn Dyfrdwy Station, in the parish of Llantysilio.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiii, S.E. : lat. $52^{\circ} 58' 40\cdot5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 15' 48''$.]

DESCRIPTION. All four "skillets" are made of bronze. Inside they are plated with tin, which now only partially remains.

1. This measures $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. across the mouth, $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. in depth, and $5\frac{1}{4}$ in. across the base. The sides taper convexly to the bottom. The handle, which is 7 in. long, and of a piece with the rim of the pan, curves concavely on either side, and terminates in a disc about $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. in



FIG. 129—ROMAN BRONZE VESSELS, COED IAL.

diameter. The disc has a crescent-shaped opening or hole, the arc of the circle being towards the termination. This was for hanging up the pan. The remainder of the circumference is marked by a corrugation, between which and the rim is another concentric corrugation,

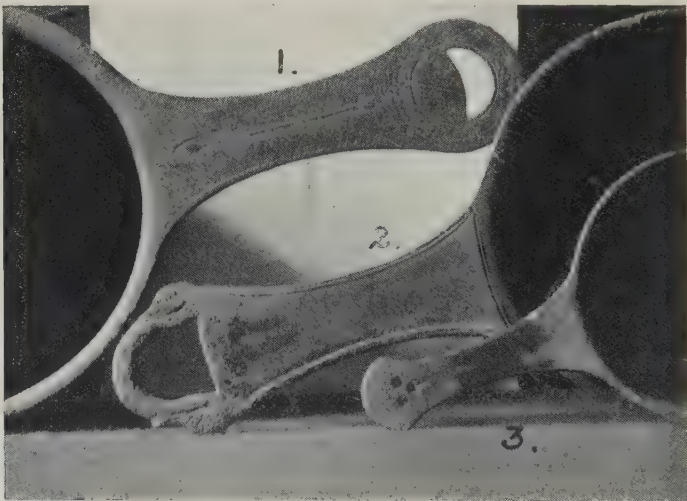


FIG. 130—HANDLES OF VESSELS, COED IAL.

or line moulding. On the upper surface of the handle is a plain *thyrsus*. The base also has concentric corrugations—a small one in the centre and two about half-way between the latter and the edge. The name of the maker is stamped across the centre of the disc just below the crescent-hole, but is quite illegible. The weight is 2 lbs. 9 oz.

2. The bowl of this is very similar to that of No. 1, the measurements being the same with the exception of that of the base, which is slightly smaller. The handle differs. Its termination is roughly acorn-shaped and not circular. Inside is a good-sized orifice, in shape like a broad shield, formed by a couple of swan's heads at the ends of a common neck. The handle has a corrugation running parallel with its edges, except along the base of the orifice, where is a series of U-shaped figures. In the centre, stamped lengthwise, is the maker's name in raised letters, now somewhat indistinct. The writer, in 1918, detected the letters . . . CIPI . . . COMA. In July, 1925, the owner, at the request of the writer, submitted the vessel for examination to

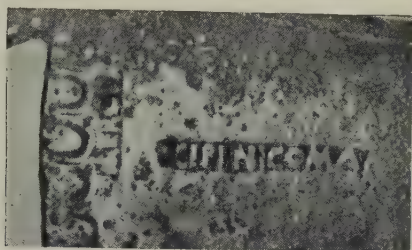


FIG. 131—INSCRIPTION ON HANDLE OF VESSEL NO. 2.

Mr. Reginald A. Smith, F.S.A., of the British Museum, who reported to the effect that he thought he could read the stamp of Publius Cippius Nicomachus [P CIPI NICOMA] who is known otherwise as a worker at Capua, probably in the time of Augustus (B.C. 27—A.D. 14). Between this stamp and the U-shaped figures below the orifice is another series of letters stamped across the handle.*

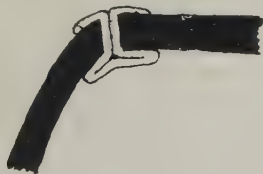


FIG. 132—SECTION OF RIVET.

The vessel is here and there cracked. The edge of the bottom is worn through in three places, and the slits have been repaired by the insertion of thin pieces of bronze made to resemble paper clips (**T**), the prongs of which were let in through the slits from the inside and then bent back and hammered outside. The weight of this is 2 lbs. 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ oz.

3. This is considerably smaller than the others, being only 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. across the mouth, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. deep, and 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ in. across the bottom. This latter, that is, the bottom, is slightly convex inside. Outside it has

* Mr. Willoughby Gardner (*Arch. Camb.*, 1927, p. 134) deciphered these years ago as MERCU. In a note Prof. Bosanquet states that two examples of the work of Cippius Nicomachus, found respectively at Herculaneum and in a river near Trieste bear a second label stamped SORS MERCURI (p. 139).

three concentric corrugations. The handle, which is 4 in. long, curves concavely like those of Nos. 1 and 2, but terminates in an arc of a circle. At this end are three small perforations. On the neck, lengthwise, is stamped the name of the maker, which is now illegible.*

4. This, the outer vessel, was so brittle that it broke to pieces, and only a few fragments were preserved. Of these a solitary piece, 7 or 8 in. long by 2 or 3 in. wide, now remains. This shows the rim, which bends outwards, and a little of the upper part of the bowl, on which is a beading, which was carried round the outside of the vessel just below the rim, consisting of two lines with ovoid figures between. This pan was slightly larger than Nos. 1 and 2.

OTHER EXAMPLES. Three other finds of vessels of this description have been made in Wales, viz. (1) at Plas Uchaf, Abergele (*see* particulars under Abergele); (2) at Kyngadle in Carmarthenshire—a skillet, strainer, and fragments: now in the National Museum of Wales (*Arch. Camb.*, 1901, pp. 20 ff.; *Inventory* [Carmarthenshire], pp. 188, 189); (3) at Ynys Gwrtheyrn, Merionethshire [about 1848]—two vessels and a fragment, preserved at Peniarth until 1921, when they were presented by Mrs. W. Wynne, with the rest of the Peniarth Collection, to the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff. Seen at Peniarth, Aug. 15, 1919.

PURPOSE. Various views have been held as to the use to which these vessels were put. One view is that they were a variety of *paterae* or *patellae*—vessels in which liquids or solid food were offered to the gods. Another view, and probably the right one, is that they were employed for domestic purposes, either for cooking or warming viands, or possibly for serving solids or liquids at the dinner table. They were introduced to this country during the Roman occupation, and probably by the legionaries, part of whose culinary outfits they may well have formed.

PRESENT LOCATION. The vessels are in the possession of Mr. D. O. Roberts, Minffordd, Glyndyfrdwy, son of the late Mr. D. Roberts, of Coed Ial.

Seen at Coed Ial, Nov. 19, 1918, and May 4, 1920, and at Minffordd, July 20, 1927.

ROMAN COINS: PEN-Y-BRYN.

A discovery of Roman coins is referred to in *Parochialia* (i, 123), 1699:—"There were Coyns of a base silver found by Pen y Bryn in Maes yr Ychen. Mr. Maesmor read Antoninus on one piece. A small p[iece] and not thick."

A Mr. Maesmor lived then at Maesmor, Dinmael, Llangwm (*Parochialia*, ii, 53).

Pen-y-bryn is $\frac{3}{4}$ m. N.W. of Valle Crucis Abbey.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiv, N.W. : lat. 52° 59' 53" ; long. 3° 11' 43".]

* This was believed by Mr. Gardner to contain the letters -I-ISAT-, which Prof. Bosanquet conjectures to be part of the well-known name of a member of the same firm found as CIPI SATURNINI (p. 139).

ROMAN COIN : TYNEWYDD.

PROVENANCE. About 1890 a "small brass" of Gallienus was picked up by the late Mesech Jones, of Penycae, in the second field to the N. of the house of Penycae, known as Ffridd Penycae, after it had been ploughed. The field had not previously been cultivated for a great number of years.

Penycae is a cottage on Tynewydd Farm, $\frac{3}{4}$ m. S.E. of Bryn Eglwys Church, but in the parish of Llantysilio.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiii, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 0' 33''$; long. $3^{\circ} 15' 47''$.]

Obverse : Spiked head of Gallienus (253-68 A.D.), to right.

Legend : GALLIENVS AVG.

Reverse : Liberty with cup and cornucopiae.

Legend : [LI]BERITAS (sic) AVG.

SUBSEQUENT HISTORY. The coin was procured from the finder by the late Rev. J. Davies, when Vicar of Bryn Eglwys (1886-1897). At his death in 1913 it passed into the possession of his widow, Mrs. Davies, Plas Collen, Rhyl, who presented it to the writer in 1919.

AUTHORITY. The above information was obtained in 1918 from Mr. Ed. W. J. Roberts, Coel Ial, Glyndyfrdwy, owner, and formerly occupier of Tynewydd.

LLANYNYS RURAL.

TUMULI : PLAS-Y-WARD.

SITE. These, two in number, stand in the field immediately to the N.E. of the railway line from Ruthin, just to the S.E. of Rhewl Station. The field belongs to Plas y Ward, and is called "Station Field." No. 1 is 48 paces from the path that runs along the E. hedge and about 130 paces from the gate at the S.E. corner. No. 2 is nearer the station and the line, 40 paces from the fence on the W. and about 130 paces from the N.W. corner of the field.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xix, N.E. : (1) lat. $53^{\circ} 7' 56.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 19' 22''$; (2) lat. $53^{\circ} 7' 58.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 19' 30''$.]

DESCRIPTION. 1. The tumulus is at present much spread, and its circumference in consequence is not easy to determine. It is, however, at least 130 paces. The height is 3 ft. It is under turf, and undisturbed, except by cultivation. Elevation : above contour line 100.

2. This is a little smaller in circumference than No. 1, but slightly higher, being $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. Its composition, condition, and elevation are the same.

Francis Hughes, an elderly manservant employed at Plas-y-Ward, informed the writer, Feb. 7, 1927, that in ploughing the field he removed one large stone from the top of No. 2 in 1913 or thereabouts, and three from No. 1 about 1909. The latter, which the writer saw near the house, were smooth stones of different kinds, measuring roughly 2 ft. by $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft.

Seen June 5, 1923, and Ap. 23, 1926.

CAMP : PWLL-Y-CLAI.

SITE. This earthwork is situated about 3 m. s.s.w. of Llanynys Church, in a field called Cae'r Bryn [No. 432 in the Tithe schedule] belonging to Pwll-y-clai, about midway between the homestead of the latter farm and that of Tan-yr-ywen.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xix, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 7' 2''$; long. $3^{\circ} 22' 25''$.]

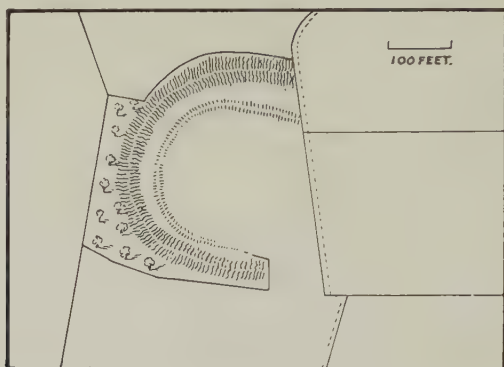


FIG. 133—PWLL Y CLAI CAMP.

DESCRIPTION. The earthwork consists of a double rampart in the shape of a horseshoe. There is a ditch inside, and another between the two banks. These latter, which are constructed of earth, are about 20 paces across. The diameter of the area enclosed is 70 paces. A modern fence runs at right angles to the northern extremities of the banks, but between the southern extremities and the same fence is a considerable gap, with no trace of the banks.

PURPOSE. It would seem that this earthwork was intended for defensive purposes, as less strong banks would have sufficed for a cattle pen. To assign a date is a hazardous matter. Perhaps a late rather than an early one is to be preferred.

Visited July 9, 1919.

[Inventory No. 579A, p. 166.]

LLYSFAEN.

ROMAN COINS, AMBER BEADS : PWLL MORKYN.

REFERENCES TO DISCOVERY. 1. *Parochialia*, 1699 [Ed. Lhuyd], pt. i, p. 40 : "Brass coins of Tetricus pict (*recte* pat[er]) and Fil[ius], Postumus etc., found at Pwll Morkyn in an Urn in ye Highway together with some Amber beads, etc."

2. *Ashmole MSS.*, vol. 1815, fol. 247 [Bodleian Library, Oxford], in a letter by Griffith Jones, Headmaster of the Llanrwst Grammar School, to Edward Lhuyd, dated, "Llanrwst, Jan. 27, 1693" : "I suppose you have ere this heard of ye ancient coyn y^t was lately found at Llysfaen in ye Lower end of Carnarvonshire. Which by ab^t half a

dozen y^t I have, I take to be y^e coyn of y^e usurpers y^t were in Britain ab^t y^e begining of y^e wane of y^e Roman Empire. These are y^e inscriptions of some of y^m :

1. [P]LV[VIS] Tetricus P F AVG no more is legible but w^t is writ here plainly. [PIVS TETRICVS, 268-73.]
2. I suppose is a Decius but it is [? is nt] plain on the reverse is Spes publica [M. Q. T. DECIVS, 249-51].
3. Q. Her. Etr. M. Decius as supposed. This is plain. D . . . US C [Son of Traianus Decius].
4. Imp. C. Victorinus PF AVG (IMP[ERATOR] C[AESAR]). The Reverse : Pax Aug. [M. P. VICTORINVS, 265-7.]
5. MVS AVG [M. C. L. POSTVMVS, 258-267.] Reverse lico.
6. Imp. C. Tetricus P F AVG. Reverse : VIRTVS AVG."

3. *Ashmole MSS.*, vol. 1820, fol. 275 verso [Bodleian Library], in a letter, unsigned and undated, to Ed. Lhuyd : "A pot of brass Roman Coins wth buttons of amber and glass (wth holes through y^m like button moulds) were found ab^t 4 year ago at a place call'd Llysfaen in Carn. sh. 3 of y^e Coins and one Amber button neer as big as a chestnut and another button like glass of divers colours (or a clear transparent colour wth white and green outw^{dly}) are in y^e hands of Mr. Davies of Llanarth [Llannerch]"

PRESENT LOCATION.—What became of the coins and beads in question is not known. Many of the books and MSS. which belonged to Mr. Robert Davies, of Llannerch and Gwysaney [died 1728], are in the possession of P. T. Davies Cooke, Esq., of Gwysaney. There is also preserved at Gwysaney a large number of coins—Greek, Roman, English, etc.—collected by the ancestors of Mr. Davies Cooke, but the writer, who inspected the same June 23, 1925, was not satisfied that any of the Llysfaen specimens were among them.

FIND-SPOT. In the *Parochialia* (i, 40), Pwlh Morkyn is mentioned as the name of the place where the coins were discovered. Pwlh Morkyn also appears on the same page as the name of a field [or house ?]. The name is otherwise unknown. There was, however, a place called Porkyn formerly between Gwastad and Plas Llysfaen, a mile or so S.E. of the church.

ROMAN COINS : PENTREGWYDDEL.

DISCOVERY. A number of Roman coins (brasses) was discovered in April, 1856, by the late Mr. J. Roberts, of Pentregwyddel, on the part of the "marian" or mountain belonging to the farm. Pentregwyddel Farm has now been demolished by quarrying operations. It was situated between $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the N.E. of Llysfaen Church. Two coins were afterwards found by Mr. John Hannah (died 1926), Chemist, Abergele, who was then a small boy living at Bron y don (Bodfaen afterwards).

CONTEMPORARY ACCOUNT. The Rev. Owen Jones Humphreys, M.A., Rector of Llanddulas at the time, thus describes the coins and

their discovery in an entry made in the "Rector's Book": "A farmer seeking lost sheep picked up what appeared to him an old button, which upon examination proved to be a penny of the Roman Empire. Upon making further search, a large number of much smaller coins about the size of our fourpenny and threepenny silver pieces were picked up, some bearing traces of inscription, but many so corroded as to present no trace of any impression. The writer [i.e. the Rector] went to the spot, and having turned up the sod with a spade found a coin nearly as large as an English penny piece. It was in a remarkably good state of preservation, and bore a very excellent profile of the Emperor Maximianus [286-305 A.D.], whose name is very legibly seen on the coin." This is a description of Humphrey's impression of the coin:

Obverse: Head to right.

Legend: MAXIMIANVS NOB CRTS[CAES].

Reverse Legend: GENIO POPU ROMANI.

Exergue: RE [? ROMA E=Rome at Mint E].

SUBSEQUENT HISTORY. The finder, so Mr. Hannah informed the writer, lent the coins to the late Mr. John Doyle, of Pendarren, Llangenny, near Abergavenny, who had also a house—Plas Dulas—at Llanddulas. Mr. Doyle never returned them, and they cannot now be traced.

MINERA.

BRONZE SOCKETED KNIFE.

PROVENANCE. This was found in Minera, but no particulars are known.

DESCRIPTION. The implement has a blade $4\frac{7}{8}$ in. long by $1\frac{3}{8}$ in. wide in the broadest part, and a socket $1\frac{3}{8}$ in. long by $\frac{3}{4}$ in. wide. In the middle of the socket is a rivet-hole. Photo, Fig. 34.

PRESENT LOCATION. It was presented to the National Museum of Wales by the late Mr. T. A. Acton, F.S.A., Wrexham. The Museum identification number is 19-251.

[*Prehistoric and Roman Wales* (Dr. Mortimer Wheeler), p. 149.]

NANTGLYN.

TUMULI: GORSEDD BRAN.

SITE. Gorsedd Bran, on which the tumuli about to be described stand, is a long mountain, the ridge of which varies from 1,600 to about 1,700 ft. above Ordnance datum, 2 m. or so s.w. of the village of Nantglyn.

DESCRIPTION. 1. One tumulus is situated on the western and highest part of the ridge (1,696 ft.), about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. of Llyn Bran. It measures about 70 paces in circumference and $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. It bears no evidence of having undergone much disturbance. The material of which this and the others are made is the stony soil of the mountain. All are more or less covered with heather.

[6 in. O. S. sheet xviii, N.W.: lat. $53^{\circ} 7' 28.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 32' 27''$.]

2. Practically contiguous, to the s.w., is the truncated form of another smaller tumulus about 54 paces in circumference and about $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. In the centre of the level top is a hole evidently made by riflers.

3. About 750 yds. to the n.e. is a third barrow of large dimensions, measuring about 80 paces in circumference and 6 ft. in height. This bears clear signs of having been dug into, a trench having been cut from the s.w. to the centre.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xviii, n.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 7' 45''$; long. $3^{\circ} 32' 2''$.]

4. This is 50 paces or so slightly to the s. of e. of No. 3. It is about 70 paces in circumference, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. It has undergone a considerable amount of disturbance on the w.s.w. side.

5. A few paces to the n.e. of No. 4 there seems to be still another and smaller tumulus, about 46 paces in circumference and $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height.

6. Some 530 paces to the n.e. on an eminence 1,617 ft. above O. D. is a very small tumulus about 18 paces in circumference and $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. It looks as if it had been slightly tampered with at the apex.

The *Inventory* (No. 595) is wrong in speaking of the above tumuli as "stone cairns" (Carneddau). On the 6 in. O.S. sheet xviii, n.w., two tumuli are marked about 100 yds. to the e.n.e. of No. 4. The western of the two does not now exist, if it ever did, but of the eastern there may be traces, for at the spot indicated on the map is a grass-covered patch with a lumpy surface.

Nos. 1 and 2 seen May, 1913 ; the rest Aug. 19, 1918 : all Ap. 7, 1926.

EXCAVATION. At the Ruthin meeting of the Cambrian Archaeological Association held in September, 1854, a paper was read by the Rev. W. Basil Jones (afterwards Bishop of St. Davids) on behalf of Mr. William Owen, of Tan-y-gyrt, Nantglyn, grandson of Dr. W. Owen Pughe, the lexicographer, "illustrative of an urn, now placed in the Museum [held in connection with the Meeting, *Arch. Camb.*, 1854, p. 252] and discovered in one of the six tumuli opened by some quarrymen on Moel Hiraethawg" (*Arch. Camb.*, 1854, p. 242).

This paper was not published, but some particulars derived from Mr. W. Owen, and supplied by the late Mr. T. Hughes, of Ystrad, Denbigh, are given in an article on "Ancient Interments and Sepulchral Urns found in Anglesey and North Wales" by the Hon. W. O. Stanley in the *Arch. Journal* for 1867, and reprinted in *Arch. Camb.*, 1868, pp. 217 ff. The particulars are as follows:—"Three Nantglyn quarrymen, having read of treasure in tumuli, determined to search those scattered over the adjacent part of Moel Hiraethawg. [1.] That first opened was on the summit of Gorsedd Bran about six miles s.w. of Denbigh After clearing away the earth, the diggers found a heap of stones, or carnedd. On removing these they espied what they imagined to be an inverted pot: to their disappointment it proved to be only a stone covering a small square cist full of calcined

bones, which may have been deposited in an urn that had fallen into pieces. The cist was constructed of slabs nicely fitted together, the crevices being closed over by a coating of clay. [2.] Within 20 yds. of this deposit the quarrymen opened another barrow, in which they found an urn full of burnt bones; but it was roughly handled, and destroyed. [3.] In a direct line with these barrows, and about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. distant to the E., there was another that proved to have been previously opened. [4.] They then proceeded to a fourth, and found an urn so soft and friable that it fell into fragments. [5.] In the fifth the treasure-seekers exposed to view two urns side by side. One was destroyed. Fortunately a quarryman passing near the spot had a trowel in his pocket. The men were now anxious to take out one entire urn, and accordingly cleared away the earth with great care with the trowel. An opening being thus made beneath the vessel a handkerchief was drawn under it, and the relic here figured was thus happily preserved."

The Nantglyn quarrymen referred to above were three brothers, John, Evan, and Thomas Evans, who lived at Tanyffordd, Nantglyn (afterwards at Aber, Bylchau), and worked at the quarries just under Gorsedd Bran. On January 25, 1926, the present writer interviewed a son of the first-mentioned brother, John Evans (died 1886, aged 63), viz. Joseph Evans, of the Smithy Farm, Cefn, St. Asaph, who stated that his father and uncles opened the tumuli in question under the direction of Mr. W. Owen, of Tan-y-gyrt. Foggy days were chosen for the work, so that they might not be detected. Evans had often heard his father speak of a pot being found inside a stone cist in shape like a round beehive, daubed inside and outside with clay.

At present it is impossible to be certain as to the identification of the barrows rifled by the Nantglyn quarrymen. The late Col. Wynne Edwards, of Plas Nantglyn, maintained that the preserved urn was discovered in the Poncyn Arian tumulus (q.v.) near Rhyd Sion Wyn (Llanrhaidr parish).

THE URN. The urn abstracted from tumulus No. 5 is thus described by the Hon. W. O. Stanley: "It is . . . rudely fashioned, but not ungraceful in outline and proportions. It is of dingy brown ware, imperfectly fired; the substance of the paste is black, with a few grains of quartz or some other white stone. The dimensions are—height, $5\frac{1}{4}$ in. [$8\frac{1}{4}$ in.]; diameter at the mouth, $7\frac{1}{2}$ in.; at the base, $4\frac{1}{4}$ in.; circumference at the widest part, nearly 27 in. The ornament externally, and within the lip, consists of irregular rows of impressed markings, mostly diagonal and in herring-bone fashion, produced apparently by an implement like a blunt chisel. At the base there is a neatly rounded moulding or bead rarely found in these ancient vessels." Dr. Fox, of the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff, gives the following description of the urn in *Arch. Camb.*, 1926, pp. 413-4:—"The urn is in excellent condition and is 9 in. high. It is a representative of that very interesting phase of the development of sepulchral pottery when the overhanging-rim urn was in process of evolution. The ornament consists of rows of incisions, very characteristic of the period. . . . The date of the urn may be reckoned as approximately 1500 B.C."

SUBSEQUENT HISTORY. The urn, soon after it was discovered, came into the possession of Mr. Thos. Hughes, of Ystrad, who exhibited it at the temporary museum held in connection with the Ruthin Meeting of Camb. Arch. Association in 1854 (*Arch. Camb.*, 1850, p.252). After the death, in 1911, of Col. Thos. Hughes (son of the above), the



FIG. 134—CINERARY URN, GORSEDD BRAN.

urn was placed by the Misses Hughes in the custody of Mr. A. Foulkes Roberts, of Denbigh, where it remained till 1925. In June, 1926, it was presented by Miss Hughes to the St. Asaph Cathedral Library (Chapter House). Owing to its being broken, it was sent by Chancellor Fisher a little later to the National Museum to be repaired.

[*Inventory*, No. 595, pp. 169-70 ; *Handbook for the Vale of Clwyd* (Davis), 1857, p. 113.]

TUMULI : CEFN BRENNIG.

I.

SITE. One of these is 400 yds. to the s.w. of Rhyd Sion Wyn, on a slight eminence in the middle of the moor known as Cefn Breninig. Rhyd Sion Wyn (John Wyn's Ford), where is now a bridge over Afon Fechan, is on the mountain track leading from Denbigh to Cerrig-y-drudion, $3\frac{1}{4}$ m. to the s.s.w. of Nantglyn village.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xviii, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 6' 4''$; long. $3^{\circ} 31' 34''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This is composed of the gravelly soil of the upland moor, and covered with turf and heather. Its circumference is about 97 paces, and its height 7 or 8 ft. At the summit there is a bowl-shaped depression about 1 ft. deep. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

II.

SITE. This is about 160 yds. to the s.e. of No. 1, on another and lower eminence.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xviii, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 6' 2''$; long. $3^{\circ} 31' 31''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The material of which this is composed is, at least partly, peat. Heather grows on it. In circumference it measures about 80 paces, and in height 5 ft. This, like No. 1, has a bowl-shaped depression at the summit. Elevation : above contour line 1,000.

III.

SITE. The position of this is about 500 yds. to the s.w. of No. 2, on higher ground, and about 400 yds. from the track leading to Cerrig-drudion.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xviii, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 5' 53''$; long. $3^{\circ} 31' 49''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This is about 77 paces in circumference and $4\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. Its material is peat, at least partly, on which grass, rushes, and heather grow. The summit bears evident signs of having been dug into, there being a depression about 1 ft. deep. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

Seen May, 1913, Aug. 20, 1918, and Ap. 28, 1925.

PENTREFOELAS.

PEN YR ORSEDD.

This is the name of a hill (1,449 ft.), 3 m. N.N.E. of Pentrevoelas Parish Church. There is no tumulus or cairn on the summit to account for the name.

Visited Aug. 8, 1928.

CAIRN : NEAR PEN YR ORSEDD.

SITE. This is situated on the n. slope of the pass to the s.w. of Pen yr Orsedd hill, some 150 yds. from the highest part, and about 170 yds. E. of the track that leads from Llyn Alwen.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xvii, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 5' 4''$; long. $3^{\circ} 39' 25''$.]

DESCRIPTION. A great quantity of the stones of the cairn has been removed, but still a large number is left. Turf grows between them. A few contain quartzite. The circumference is about 46 paces, and the present height $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. Elevation : above contour line 1,250.

Seen Aug. 8, 1928.

REMAINS OF CAIRN : MOEL RHIWLUG.

SITE. The position of these remains is about 130 yds. N.W. of the highest point of Moel Rhiwllug (B.M. 1416.3).

[6 in. O.S. sheet xvii, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 5' 1''$; long. $3^{\circ} 39' 57''$ (approx.)]

DESCRIPTION. Only somewhat meagre remains of this small cairn are left—not much more than a single layer of stones. The outline is rendered irregular by the presence of a heap of stones on the N. side. The circumference seems to have been about 12 to 14 paces. The present height is barely 1 ft. Among the stones left are several with white spar.

Seen Aug. 8, 1928.

REMAINS OF CISTFAEN : CERNIOGE.

REFERENCE. Writing in the fifties of last century, the Rev. John Evans, then Vicar of Pentrevoelas, afterwards Archdeacon of Merioneth (see his MS. History of the Parish, kept at the Vicarage), observes : “ Within existing memory there was a small cromlech or cistfaen complete, with the remains of others, in the stony field opposite the [Wesleyan] Chapel [now converted into Cottages]. These were probably at one time enclosed within Cairns, the stones of which were used for walls and roads. There are two upright pillars of the *Cistfaen* still remaining in their original position, but embedded in a high wall.”

PRESENT POSITION. The “ pillars ” have since been incorporated in the walls of the “ Cernioge Cottages ”—the farthest cottages on the right-hand side of the road, less than 200 yds., after passing Cernioge Farm, in the direction of Bettws-y-Coed. The stones, however, are not visible, owing to the houses having been rough cast. There were people living in 1913, when the writer visited the spot and made inquiries, who remembered them.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 25''$; long. $3^{\circ} 38' 3''$.]

[*Cambrian Journal*, vol. ii (1865), p. 182 (Article by Rev. J. Evans).]

VANISHED CIST : TAI-TAN-LAN.

REFERENCE. The late Rev. J. Evans, Vicar of Pentrevoelas (1844–57), writes in the *Cambrian Journal*, vol. ii (1855), p. 183 : “ Near Corsnug is an eminence, called Pen Cistfaen, but the sepulchral cell has disappeared.” Compare *Cymru*, 1903, p. 120 : “ Pen-y-Gistfaen yn ymyl Tai Tan Lan a chroesffordd Dwina ” (Pen y Gistfaen near Tai-tan-lan and the cross roads of Twina).

SITE. Pen-y-Gistfaen is about 230 yds to the S.S.W. of Cors Nug, which is $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. to the E.N.E. of Pentrevoelas Church, and 150 yds. to the W. of Tai-tan-lan.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 17''$; long. $3^{\circ} 39' 5''$.]
No trace of the cist remains.

Site visited Sept. 21, 1926.

CISTS AND STONE ALIGNMENTS: HAFOD-Y-GARREG.

SITE. The remains now to be described are situated in a large field called Ffridd Can-awen, belonging to Hafod-y-garreg and about 500 yds. to the N. of the homestead. It is the field next to the mountain. The remains are about 210 paces N.N.E. of the point where the lane leading from the house enters the field. Hafod-y-garreg, the property of Major J. C. Wynne Finch, of Voelas, is about a mile N.E. of the parish church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 0''$; long. $3^{\circ} 40' 27''$.]

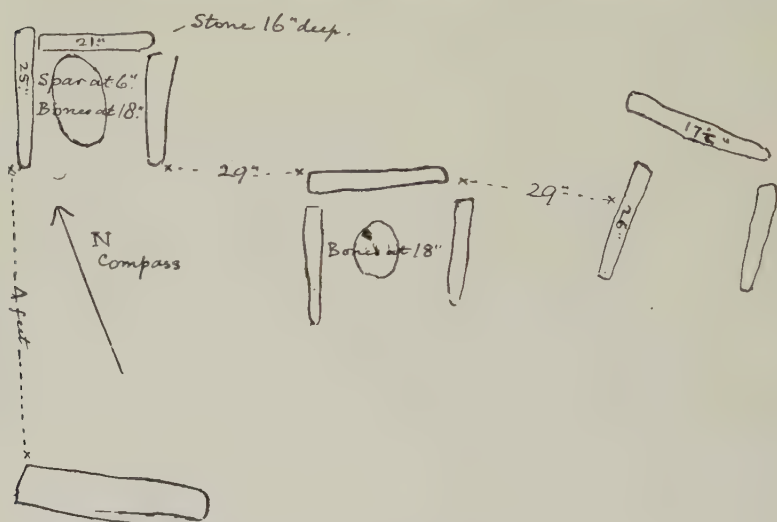


FIG. 135—CISTS AT HAFOD-Y-GARREG.

DESCRIPTION. The remains now consist of a large number of stones—about 60—projecting a few inches from the ground in a roughly oblong area measuring about 120 by 47 paces. Most of these stones are slab-like, and many of them are set edge-wise at right angles to each other. Along the s. side of the studded area is an alignment of about 15 stones, 25 paces in length.

EXPLORATION. 1. In 1884 Canon Owen Jones, the then vicar of Pentrevoelas (afterwards vicar of Bodelwyddan), having been informed of some protruding stones regularly arranged in Ffridd Can-awen, immediately proceeded thereto and inspected the site. Suspecting that the stones marked ancient graves, he decided on digging at one spot to make certain. After removing the surface soil he came, at the depth of one foot, to a layer of small white stones—spar. Underneath these was a thickness of about 2 ft. of what appeared like burnt turf of a reddish colour, and under this some black mould, intermixed with which were calcined bones, afterwards ascertained to be human. No other remains were discovered. The cist consisted of three sides only, the back stone measuring $17\frac{1}{2}$ in. in length, and the side stones about 26 in. each.

2. In March of the same year Mr. A. Heneage Cocks, F.S.A., of Great Marlow, who was staying at Voelas, the residence of Col. C. A. Wynne Finch (died 1903), accompanied Canon Jones to the spot, and excavated two more graves immediately to the w. of that opened by Canon Jones.

(a) The first to be tackled was the westernmost. The two side stones of this cist measured about 25 in. each, and the back stone 21 in. Three or four small stones were placed inside the walls, against them, as if for additional strength. "In this cist, 6 in. below the surface, was a layer of small pieces of quartz . . . placed tolerably compactly, but only about one layer deep over the surface." This apparently marked the surface at the time of the burials. At a depth of one foot below the layer of quartz and in a light brown earth were fragments of burnt bone, over a surface perhaps 18 in. by 12 in. "The depth of the slabs of stones forming the cist was about 16 in., so that the centre of the hole, where the bones were placed, was probably excavated a little deeper than the sides of the cist."

(b) The central cist had been dug into since Canon Jones opened the one on the right; but the search had stopped short of the burial. As in the case of the last cist, the cremated remains lay 18 in. from the surface, but they did not amount to a quarter of the quantity found in the former.

ALIGNMENT. "To the west of the cist," so writes Mr. A. H. Cocks (*Arch. Camb.*, 1918, p. 127), "and extending a few yards further south in the same Ffridd . . . are a large quantity of standing stones, either appearing just above the surface or hidden by turf and moss. The most perfect row is the southernmost, running in about a w.n.w. and e.s.e. line; the stones are chiefly at intervals of 4 ft. or 5 ft. from one another. Other rows less perfect run about parallel, and others again apparently at right angles. . . . On digging round one of the stones . . . we found there were *two* stones, placed on end, one leaning against the other, and a piece of quartz lying on the point of the junction of the two."

NAME. The name of the field—Ffridd Can-awen—in which the above remains are, literally translated, means the "Field of a Hundred Reins," the allusion being, so tradition says, to a certain warrior who, during a battle fought on the spot, held in hand a hundred horses. Chancellor Fisher (*Arch. Camb.*, 1918, p. 123) suggests that *Canawen* is a corruption of "Cenawon" (Mediaeval, "Canawon"), cubs. In a secondary sense the plural means "Catkins, or blossoms." The name occurs elsewhere, e.g. in Llanfihangel Bachellaeth, Lleyn—"Cerrig" and "Cytiau Canawen," and Whitford (formerly)—"Maen Canawen." Of the latter Ed. Lhuyd (*Parochialia*, iii, 149) says: "I take *maen Kanhawen* to be no more than the stone of a man so called, as Llech Gynfelin, Llech Gynvarwy, Llech Ylched and at least 500 more. I know the people have a story of Cant Awen (Hundred Bridles)." "Maen Canawen" (Whitford) was a monolith not far from Llyn Helyg. The late John Brunnan informed the writer that this stone, which had in it a hole big enough for an arm to pass through, was

removed in the fifties of last century to serve as a gate-post. Nothing is known of it now. The word *Canawon* occurs in *Myv. Arch.*, pp. 39, 122.

Visited June 10, 1918, and Sept. 21, 1926.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1884, pp. 78-9; 1918, pp. 123-7.]

ALIGNMENTS OF STONES, ETC. : HAFOD-Y-DRE.

SITE. The remains here referred to are to be seen in a field called Y Ffridd, $\frac{3}{4}$ m. to the N. of Hafod-y-dre farmhouse, to which tenement the field belongs. The site is near the N. corner of the field, 10 paces or so from the wall dividing "Y Ffridd" from the mountain.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 7''$; long. $3^{\circ} 39' 50''$.]

DESCRIPTION. 1. *Protruding Stones.* One feature of this site is the presence of a number of stones projecting out of the ground. Two rows more or less parallel to each other are noticeable, pointing N.W. and S.E. In one row there are 8 or 9 stones placed about 2 paces apart, the length of the alignments being about 20 yds. Similarly placed stones are to be found on either side of the rows referred to.

In an account of a visit to the spot in March, 1884, with the Rev. Owen Jones, then vicar of Pentrevoelas, Mr. A. H. Cocks, F.S.A., of Great Marlow, states that there were sixteen parallel rows forming a perfect square 57 ft. each way, though several of the stones were missing, especially at the N. end. "The 6th row from the E. end," so he writes, "appears to be nearly perfect as to its N. end, and the 7th row quite perfect; and these two rows and the third from the E. end appear to be perfect at the S. end, giving the length of 57 feet. The 6th row is the most perfect throughout its length, and contains 15 stones. . . . About 5 feet from the N. end, between the 6th and the 7th rows, is a large stone which has evidently stood upright, from 4 to 5 ft. above ground; it is now fallen, and rested on a smaller stone at the side, which does not apparently belong to the row it is nearest." This stone still remains in the same position.

2. *Cairn.* About 14 yds. to the S.W. of the alignments just described is a pile of stones 4 or 5 paces across—evidently the remains of a small cairn. The stones show signs of having been much disturbed, there being a hole in the centre. Of this cairn Mr. Cox thus writes: "A cluster of 5 or 6 stones, about 8 or 9 yds. west of the N.W. corner of the standing stones, resolved itself on examination into the top of a Cairn, almost buried under the turf, which was nearly 1 ft. thick all over it, except just at its apex. The Cairn consisted of large pieces of mountain limestone, most of which were waterworn. . . . There were a few small fragments of quartz, and one small piece of sandstone. . . . The Cairn was about 16 feet in diameter. . . . Near the centre was a large stone . . . and under it lying flat . . . was a huge stone 50 inches long and 33 inches broad, near the centre and 10 inches thick, which we (i.e. Canon Jones and he) could not move." The following day, with the aid of a labourer and a crowbar, this stone was turned up on end, but nothing recognisable as artificial was noticed under it.

Visited Aug. 21, 1918, and Sept. 21, 1926.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1918, pp. 123-33; also 1884, p. 79.]

CIRCLE : MAES Y MERDDYN.

SITE. The position of this is a little under $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W. of Maes y Merddyn Farmstead, in a field called Ffridd Carreg y Big, 165 paces or so to the N.E. of the gate opening (on the w.) into the field from the mountain. Maes y Merddyn is $1\frac{3}{4}$ m. N.N.W. of Pentrevoelas Church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiii, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 36''$; long. $3^{\circ} 42' 10''$]

DESCRIPTION. It consists of a fairly wide circular bank of stones and earth covered with turf, measuring 33 paces outside, with a small mound composed of stones and earth, 13 paces around and $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. high, filling practically the whole of the space inside. The mound has been dug into at the centre down to the surface of the ground. Elevation : above contour line 1000.

PURPOSE. Locally the circle is said to have been a cockpit. The presence of the round mound inside, however, seems to preclude that possibility.

Seen June 10, 1927.

CIRCLE : FRON BELLAF.

SITE. The position of this is a little under 2 m. to the E.N.E. of Pentrevoelas Church, and about 330 yds. E.N.E. of the homestead of Fron Bellaf Farm, in a sloping field, the upper part of which is rocky.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 27.5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 38' 17''$.]

DESCRIPTION. At the spot indicated is a circular area, not unlike an amphitheatre, cut out of the gentle slope of the field. Above the excavated part is a slightly raised bank which increases where the interior area is level with the surrounding ground. On the s.w. this bank is well defined, but somewhat irregular in places. It is composed of soil with some stones. The circumference of the enclosing bank is about 100 paces. There are apparently traces of other structures to the s.

DATE AND PURPOSE. When and for what purpose this circle was constructed is uncertain. A local theory is that it was a cockpit. It looks as if it might have been a pond, but possibly it is a prehistoric circle.

Seen Sept. 21, 1926.

ARTIFICIAL MOUND : MAES GWYN.

SITE. This is situated in the yard of Maes Gwyn Farm, which is $\frac{3}{4}$ m. N.W. of Pentrevoelas village, just to the s.w. of the house.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiii, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 3' 23''$; long. $3^{\circ} 41' 45''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The mound is about 40 paces in circumference and 7 or 8 ft. in height. It is composed of soil. Its sides are steep and its shape somewhat irregular. Elevation : above contour line 800.

PURPOSE. The mound is evidently artificial, but for what purpose it was constructed is not apparent. It does not look like a tumulus at present, its sides being so steep, and it is very small to be a castle mount.

Seen July 26, 1922, and Dec. 17, 1924.

MOUNDS : LLWYN ONN.

In the marsh to the s. of Llwyn Onn cottages, which stand at the junction of the bye-road from Rhydlydan with the Pentrevoelas and Cerrig-y-drudion main road, is a group of artificial mounds of various sizes and composed of peat interspersed with stones.

1. The largest is about 350 yds. s. of the main road and 100 yds. E. of the tiny stream that flows from the cottages to the River Marddwr. This is somewhat oval in shape, being 18 paces long by 14 broad (over all) and 5 ft. high.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 20''$; long. $3^{\circ} 38' 32''$.]

2. About 40 paces to the N.E. is a circular patch strewn with good-sized stones.

3. Forty-six paces or so to the N.W. of No. 1 is a small mound, about 47 paces in circumference and $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height.

4. Another small one lies 66 paces to the N. of No. 1.

5. About 62 paces to the s.w. of No. 1 is a fifth, 17 paces in diameter and 2 ft. in height.

6. A sixth stands close to the w. fence of the next enclosed part of the marsh to the w. This has a lumpy surface owing to the action of the sun's heat on the peat. Circumference, about 80 paces, and height, $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft.

When and for what purpose these mounds were constructed is now known.

Seen Sept. 15, 1925, and Ap. 13, 1926.

ANCIENT VILLAGE (?) : MOEL SEISIOG.

SITE. This is situated on the slope near the foot of Moel Seisiog in a sheltered nook facing s.w. Moel Seisiog is a hill 1,533 ft. above sea level, distant nearly 2 m. in a N.E. direction from Nebo, a hamlet in the civil parish of Llanrwst.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xvi, s.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 5' 48''$; long. $3^{\circ} 42' 14''$.]

DESCRIPTION. At the spot indicated are what look somewhat like the remains of several hut circles, which vary in size. One of them measures 4 yds. across ; another has a diameter of 6 yds. In most cases the encircling wall is composed of only single stones placed in the ground.

Seen May, 1913, and June 2, 1925.

[*Inventory*, No. 603, p. 172.]

MAES Y CARNEDDI : CERNIOGE.

Maes y Carneddi (" The Field of the Cairns ") is the field on the N. side of the Holyhead road opposite the front of Cernioge house, which is $2\frac{1}{4}$ m. E.S.E. of Pentrevoelas village.

In this field there are at present no cairns or traces of any.

Visited Sept. 15, 1925.

BWLCH Y GARNEDD.

Pen Bwlch y Garnedd is an elevated ridge 3 m. N.E. of Pentrevoelas Church. [6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, N.W.]

The Bwlch (Pass) is the lower ground to the S.W. Neither on the ridge nor in the pass is there a trace of a cairn at present. There is, however, a patch of stones, but not circular, just to the S.W. of the "Pen." Search for the carnedd was made Jan. 23, 1929.

CARNEDD Y DRUMMER: CEFNEN WEN.

REFERENCE. The Rev. John Evans, Vicar of Pentrevoelas (1844-57), thus refers to this cairn in the *Cambrian Journal*, 1855, p. 183: "Above Hafod y Garreg on the mountain road is Carnedd y Drummer, the origin of which is attributed to the sudden death on that spot of a man who was on his way to Voelas to scare rats (with a drum!)."

SITE. It is situated 2 m. N.N.E. of Pentrevoelas Church, and nearly $\frac{2}{3}$ m. N.N.E. of the gate that leads into the mountain from Hafod y garreg field on the Pentrevoelas and Alwen Lake track, some 10 yds. W. of the latter. The land is a sheep-walk belonging to Cors Nug.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, N.W. : lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 37''$; long. $3^{\circ} 40' 6''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The "Carnedd" is a small pile of stones erected in a slight, circular hollow, and measuring 2 ft. across by 2 ft. high. The site does not seem to possess any archaeological significance.

Particulars obtained from the Rev. D. Thomas, Vicar of Pentrevoelas.

CINERARY URN: TREBEDDAU.

According to *Goleuad Gwynedd* (1820 [August], p. 351), a Welsh periodical, edited by one John Parry, and printed at Caerleon by I. Fletcher, an earthenware jar or urn full of coarse earth mixed with small bones was discovered about 1820 at Trebeddau, within $\frac{1}{2}$ m. of the spot where the Brohomagli inscribed stone, now at Voelas, was found in January, 1820. The urn, on being exposed to the air, crumbled to pieces. Trebeddau (Homestead of the Graves) is a farm $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. of Pentrevoelas Church.

FLINT IMPLEMENT.

A flint implement, carefully polished, and measuring $3\frac{3}{8}$ in. by $2\frac{5}{12}$ in., was found about 1848 in Pentrevoelas, but where exactly, and in what circumstances, is not known. It has been supposed that it was used as a flaying knife. Present whereabouts unknown.

[*Arch. Journal*, 1854, vol. xi, p. 414; vol. xvii, pp. 110, 111.]

STONE HAMMER: MAES GWYN.

DISCOVERY. This was found on the premises of Maes Gwyn when the present tenant, Mr. Griffith Thomas, took over the farm about 1911. Its previous history is not known. Presumably it was

discovered on the farm. For years it was used as a halter weight in the stable. When the writer first heard of it from Mr. Thomas, June 10, 1927, it could not be found. When he called again, March 15, 1929, a fragment was produced, the implement having in the meantime been accidentally broken and a part lost.

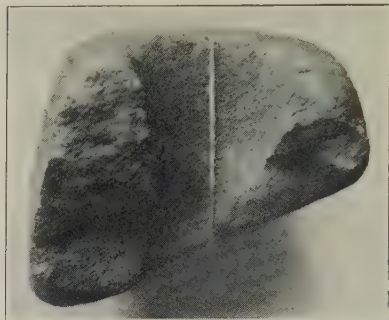


FIG. 136—STONE HAMMER, MAES GWYN.

DESCRIPTION. The fragment preserved is less than half the hammer, which was oblong in shape with rounded corners. The perforation, which was in the middle, was made from both faces, and measured in diameter about $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. on the surfaces and $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. in the centre. A considerable piece had previously been broken off one face slantwise. The original dimensions would be: length, about $6\frac{1}{2}$ in.; breadth, $3\frac{3}{4}$ in.; and depth, $3\frac{1}{4}$ in. The stone is bluish grey in colour and fine in grain.

PRESENT LOCATION. The fragment was given to the writer.

SPEARHEADS: DOL TREBEDDAU.

WHERE FOUND. Two bronze spearheads were found in 1822 in a field called Dol Trebeddau, about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. w. of Pentrevoelas, not far from the spot where the Brohomagli stone was unearthed about two years previously.

DESCRIPTION. The Rev. J. Evans, vicar of Pentrevoelas (1844–57), thus describes them: “One was 9 inches and the other $4\frac{3}{4}$ inches long. The cavity to receive the shaft was not uniformly hollow downwards, but separated into 4 slips or sides, which probably were rivetted to the wood. The point or blade of the largest was $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches, that of the smallest $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length.”

PRESENT LOCATION. Nothing is known of the whereabouts of these implements.

[*Vide* Rev. J. Evans’s *MS. History of Pentrevoelas*, kept at the Vicarage.]

BRONZE SPEARHEAD: MAES-Y-MERDDYN.

DISCOVERY. This was discovered about 1877 in a turbary on Ffridd-y-foel some 900 yds. N.W. of Maes-y-Merddyn, by Mr. W. Ellis, then a lad of 13 living at Tynllidiart, now (1929) employed at Voelas

and living at Ysgubor Wen. He was at the time raising peat, previously cut, from the turbary. The implement was found point downwards some 3 ft. below the surface of the ground. Part of the wooden haft was in the socket.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xvii, s.w.: lat. $53^{\circ} 4' 47''$; long. $3^{\circ} 41' 14''$ (approx.).]

DESCRIPTION. The writer gathered from the finder, whom he interviewed Jan. 24, 1929, that the implement was a socketed leaf-shaped spearhead about 9 in. long, with a pronounced central rib on either side, which would give the blade in section a lozenge shape. It would seem that it resembled that found at Fenny Bentley, Derbyshire, figured on p. 37 of the British Museum *Bronze Age Guide*, 1920. It belonged to a late phase of the Bronze Age.

PRESENT LOCATION. Mr. W. Ellis sold the spearhead for a shilling to his employer, the late Hugh Jones, of Cefn y Gadfa, who had it in his possession for many years. What became of it eventually is not known.

QUERN STONE: WAUN EOS.

DISCOVERY. About 1875 the late Mr. Wm. Ellis, of Tynllidiart (uncle and namesake of the finder of the spearhead), found a nether quern stone in making ditches in Waun Eos, a sheep-walk belonging to Trebeddau, about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.W. of the summit of Moel Derwydd (1,295 ft.), which is $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.N.E. of Pentrevoelas Church. Waun Eos gives its name to a tributary of the river Cledwen, both of which are mentioned in Llewelyn ap Iorwerth's Charter to the Abbey of Aberconway (1198).*

[6 in. O.S. sheet xvii, s.w.: lat. $3^{\circ} 5' 45''$; long. $3^{\circ} 40' 30''$ (approx.).]

DESCRIPTION. The quern, which is made of a speckled granite, measures 18 in. in diameter. It is not a true circle. The orifice in the middle is 1 in. across. Around the orifice and along the edge the thickness has been reduced, leaving an uneven ridge of the average thickness of 4 in. between the centre and the circumference. The underside of the stone is rough-hewn.

PRESENT LOCATION. The finder, after keeping the quern many years in his own possession, presented it to the late Col. C. A. Wynne-Finch, of Voelas, where it is still preserved.

AUTHORITY. Information about the discovery was obtained, July 7, 1920, from Mr. R. Davies (died 1922), Old Voelas.

Seen Jan. 24, 1929.

*"Moel-seissauc. Hinc usque blaen *gwenn eneas*. Hinc descendendo per alveum usque Henrytbeli. Hinc per fluvium *Kaletwyn* usque Blaen Kaletwyn subtus Korsgarannen."

PEN-Y-CAE.**TUMULUS : CEFN Y GADER.**

SITE. This stands close to the point where the parishes of Esclusham Above, Llangollen Rural, and Pen-y-Cae meet, nearly $3\frac{3}{4}$ m. N.N.W. of Pen-y-Cae Church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 20''$; long. $3^{\circ} 8' 14''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The tumulus, which is large, its circumference being about 80 paces, and height 8 or 9 ft., is composed of peaty soil in which are embedded a good many stones. Possibly stones constitute the bulk beneath the surface. On the S.E. a narrow trench has been made from the circumference to the centre. What the original depth was it is not possible to say. On the summit is planted a stone—now leaning—about 3 ft. 6 in. high, 1 ft. 7 in. broad, and 10 in. thick. It is probably dressed, though the surfaces are uneven. It bears no marks. There are about $\frac{1}{2}$ doz. loose stones around the base. In the 6 in. O.S. map it is designated a boundary stone, but it is several yards from the present boundary lines. Elevation : above contour line 1250.

Seen Feb. 28, 1928.

CAIRNS : CEFN Y GADER.**I.**

SITE. One stands $2\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.S.W. of Minera Church and $2\frac{3}{4}$ m. N.N.W. of Penycae Church, on the E. slope of a heather-covered mountain, about 1,500 ft. above sea level.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 1' 54''$; long. $3^{\circ} 6' 58''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The stones from the interior of this cairn have to a great extent been taken away. Those of the outside, to the height of 5 ft. or so, remain. The bulk of the stones of which this and the two cairns described below are composed vary in weight from about 2 to 10 lbs. The circumference is about 54 paces. Elevation : above contour line 1250.

NAME. This cairn and the next (No. 2) are known as "Cerrig Mawr" (Big Stones) and "Sypiau Cerrig y Cawr" (The Giant's Stone Bundles).

II.

The second is about 325 yds. E.N.E. of No. 1. [Lat. $53^{\circ} 1' 58''$, long. $3^{\circ} 6' 42''$.] The circumference of this is larger, being about 80 paces. A big hole has been made in the centre by the removal of stones. The present height is about 5 ft. Elevation : above contour line 1250.

III.

SITE. This is $\frac{3}{4}$ m. W.N.W. of No. 1, and about 600 yds. S.S.E. of the point where the parishes of Pen-y-Cae, Llangollen Rural, and Esclusham Above meet.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 5''$; long. $3^{\circ} 8' 1''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The stones of this cairn are loose, uncovered, and much spread. The present circumference is about 78 paces, and height 4 or 5 ft. A very large hole has been made in the centre, in which a rifled cist is exposed. A slab forming one of its sides is about 6 ft. long. Elevation: above contour line 1250.

Seen July 17, 1923, and Sept. 27, 1928.

[*Inventory*, No. 599, p. 171.]

TUMULUS: RUABON MOUNTAIN.

SITE. The position of this is about $\frac{3}{4}$ m. to the S.E. of Cairn No. 1 (above).

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxviii, s.w.: lat. $53^{\circ} 1' 17''$; long. $3^{\circ} 6' 25''$ (approx.).]

DESCRIPTION. The tumulus, which is slightly elongated and covered with heather, is about 100 paces around at base, and 3 or 4 ft. high. On the E. side, where the heather had recently been burnt 3, stones, 7 and 8 paces apart respectively, were noticed embedded in the tumulus. These may form part of a circle.

Seen July 17, 1923.

CAIRNS: RUABON MOUNTAIN.

I.

SITE. This is $2\frac{3}{4}$ m. due w. of Penrycae Parish Church. It is raised on the edge of a bit of declivity.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxiv, N.E.: lat. 53° ; long. $3^{\circ} 8' 28''$ (approx.).]

DESCRIPTION. Most of the stones of this cairn have been removed. The circumference is about 36 paces, and the present height $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. On the s. and S.E. sides the "cairn circle," in the form of a border of large and well-shaped stones, is exposed to view. Elevation: above contour line 1500.

II.

About 46 paces to the N. of No. 1 is another cairn, which is in a more perfect condition. Its circumference is about 50 paces, and present height 3 ft.

Seen June 24, 1924, and Nov. 2, 1927.

ROMAN COINS: RUABON MOUNTAIN.

DISCOVERY. About the year 1893 Mr. James R. Ewart, who lived then at Eglwyseg Manor House (Plas Uchaf), but now at Dinbren, discovered three Roman coins about a foot below the surface of the ground, but not together, in digging round a cairn, which cannot now be identified, on the moorland to the N.N.E. of Craig y Forwyn, which is $3\frac{3}{4}$ m. N.N.E. of the town of Llangollen. [6 in. O.S. sheet xxvii, S.E.]

DESCRIPTION. Two of the coins were brass and one silver. The latter, which was a denarius, so worn that the inscription had become

illegible, was lost some years ago. The other two, which remain in the possession of the finder, are large or "first" brasses of Antoninus Pius and Commodus respectively.

1. Obverse : Head of Antoninus Pius (138-61), laureated, to right.
 Legend : ANTONINVS AVG PIVS PP TRP COS III.
 Reverse : Tiber reclining, right hand on vessel.
 Leg. : TIBERIS above figure, and sc below. Cohen, vol. ii, 351, No. 817.
2. Obv. : Head of Commodus (180-92), laur., to right.
 Leg. : M COMMODUS ANT P FELIX AVG BRIT.
 Rev. : Felicity standing, to left, holding a patera in right hand and sceptre in left.
 Leg. : PUBLICA FEL PM TRP XII IMP VIII COS V PP. SC in field.
 Cohen, vol. iii, p. 315, No. 645.
 Lent to writer, March, 1928.

RHOSLLANERCHRUGOG.

PANT-Y-GARN.

The holding bearing this name ("The Hollow of the Cairn") is situated about 2 m. W.N.W. of Rhosllanerchrugog. Two visits were paid to the place, viz. on July 17, 1923, and Oct. 23, 1928, but no cairn could be found. If there ever was one, no knowledge of it now remains.

RUABON.

CISTFAEN AND SEPULCHRAL URN : BRYN.

DISCOVERY. Some men who were employed in 1898 in making the sewerage at Ruabon came upon a cistfaen in digging up one of the roads at the Bryn. The cist was 4 ft. below the surface. The exact spot was opposite the Baptist Chapel in Cleveland Street, about $\frac{3}{8}$ m. N.N.E. of the Parish Church, and a little to the W. of the main road to Wrexham.

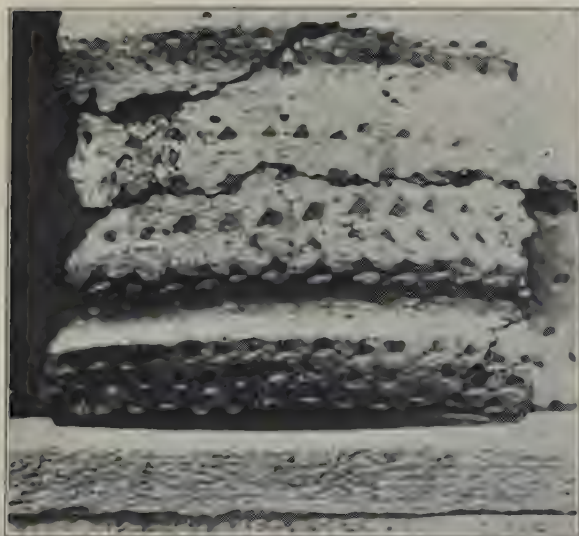
[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxv, S.E. : lat. 52° 59' 24" ; long. 3° 2' 11".]

THE CIST. The sides, ends, and cover of the cist were formed of fragments of a single rough slab between 3 and 4 in. thick. Inside the cist, in the centre, mouth upwards, was a cinerary urn containing a quantity of bones and some pebbles. The bones, according to Prof. (later Sir) W. Boyd Dawkins, to whom a sample was submitted for examination, were human, partially burnt.

THE URN. This was taken out whole, but was broken as it was being removed to the foreman's cabin. It was nearly 15 in. in height and about a foot across the mouth, but tapered to a somewhat narrow base, $4\frac{7}{8}$ in. in diameter. It was made of the reddish clay of the locality. The inside was black, indicating that the bones had been placed therein straight from the funeral pyre. There was ornamentation consisting of triangular indentations on the upper part between the shoulder and the rim and on the inside of the lip, 10 rows on the former and 3 rows on the latter.



FIG. 137—CINERARY URN, BRYN (ABT. $\frac{1}{5}$)



Photos. by the Rev. D. J. Bowen.

FIG. 138—ORNAMENT ON CINERARY URN, BRYN.

PRESENT LOCATION. The fragments of the urn, with the exception of a piece about 3 by 4 in., are in the possession of the Rev. D. J. Bowen, M.Sc., Head Master of the Ruabon Grammar School, who purchased them from the finder. Mr. Bowen, who hopes to cement the fragments together and place the restored urn in the School Museum, has also a quantity of the bones that were found therein. The piece, 3×4 in., mentioned above—a part of the lip—is preserved in a show-case at the Oswestry Free Library, together with some bones and Prof. Boyd Dawkins's letter, giving the result of his examination of the latter. These were presented to the Library by Mr. A. C. Nicholson, of Hoylake, who secured the remains from Mr. S. Mason, Builder. Prof. W. B. Dawkins's letter, dated Jan. 22, 1907, and written to Mr. Nicholson, is as follows:—"These bones have been partially burnt. They are human fragments of skull and of teeth, and belong to the Bronze Age, when cremation was first practised in Britain."

Urn examined Ap. 3 and Oct. 30, 1918.

[*Byegones*, Aug. 24, 1898, p. 463; *Inventory*, No. 636, p. 178.]

TUMULUS: WYNNSTAY.

SITE. This is situated 1 m. very slightly w. of s. of Ruabon Parish Church, in a field called Cae Mawr.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxv, s.w. : lat. $52^{\circ} 58' 20''$; long. $3^{\circ} 2' 40''$.]

DESCRIPTION. Its circumference is about 86 paces, and height 3 ft. It is composed of soil and covered with turf. There are no signs of its having been disturbed. Elevation: above contour line 300.

Seen May 8, 1923.

PREHISTORIC BURIAL: THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

DISCOVERY. In the early spring of 1917 (during the Great War), while the boys of the Ruabon Grammar School, under the supervision of the Head Master, the Rev. D. J. Bowen, M.Sc., were digging the play-field behind, i.e. to the N.E. of the School, with a view to raising a crop of potatoes, some human bones and a flint arrow-head were discovered about 3 ft. below the surface of the ground.

SITE. The exact spot where the remains were found is just below two trees, towards the N.N.E. corner of the field, on the fringe of Offa's Dyke, which forms the boundary between the field and the road leading to the Gardden.

FINDS. The bones consisted of a spinal and thigh bone. The arrow-head measured about $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. by 1 in. The latter, which was in the possession of the Rev. D. J. Bowen, has been lost sight of.

Information obtained from the Rev. D. J. Bowen Ap. 3, 1918.

CAMP : Y GARDDEN.

SITE. This camp is situated on a low hill, 585 ft. above Ordnance datum, "commanding a most extensive view around," in the township of Bodylltyn, about a mile N.N.W. of Ruabon Church. Offa's Dyke lies about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. to the S.E.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxv, N.W. : lat. $52^{\circ} 59' 41''$; long. $3^{\circ} 2' 47''$ - $56''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The camp, which is roughly oval in shape and occupies between 4 and 5 acres of ground, is artificially protected all round, there being no steep sides. On the N.N.W. and W. sides there is only one rampart, and that not very strong, while on the N.E., E.,

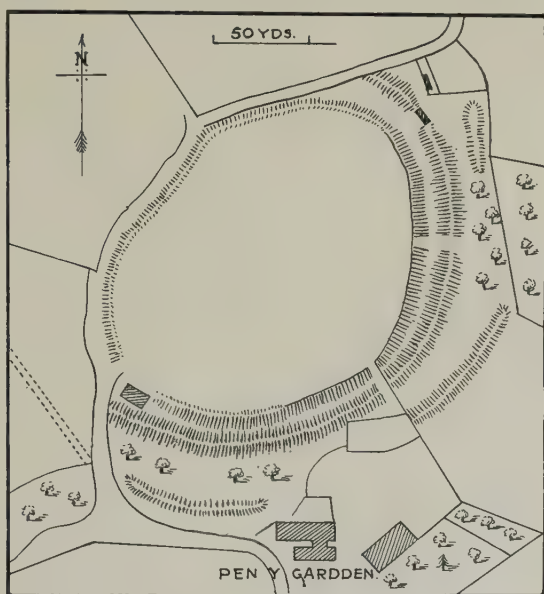


FIG. 139—Y GARDDEN CAMP.

and S. there is a second, and sections of a third. The inner rampart is composed of stones. This has been somewhat obscured by the erection, in fairly modern times, of a dry wall on the top, or just inside. In 1926, about two-thirds of this wall was pulled down and the bigger stones carted away to be broken up for road metal, the rubble being left. The second rampart starts from the road at the N.E. and is continued down to the S.W. corner, where is another road. This, which is composed for the most part of earth, is fairly strong. Between it and the inner rampart is a fosse which is in places, as, for instance, on the N.E., quite deep. The third rampart, which is also earthen, is in three sections. Whether at one time it was continuous it is now difficult to say. It is to be noticed that the camp has the strong defences on the side where the incline is steepest.

Where the original entrance or entrances were it is not easy to decide. At present there are three levelled openings into the interior. One is about the middle of the E. side. Another is on the S.E. side

about 70 yds. from the latter. This is narrow and probably modern. The third is at the s.w. corner where the second rampart ends. This is the present main entrance into the inside area, which is a cultivated field. Of these, the first may well have been original, in which case the N.E. and S.E. sections of the third rampart may have been intended as outworks to protect it. Possibly there was an entrance also on the N.W. side opposite to the pathway leading to Pant.

Pennant (*see below*) states that there were within the area "many vestiges of buildings, the habitations of the old possessors." Traces of some of these are perhaps to be seen on the N.E. side, close to the inner rampart, where there are many stones embedded in the ground. The inside area rises gradually towards the centre.

Owner : Mr. R. Haig, Pen-y-gardden.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES. 1. In the *Harleian MS.*, 473 [end of 16th century], fol. 24 (*see* Edward Owen's *Catalogue of the MSS. related to Wales in the British Museum*, 1903, p. 153), the following mention of the camp appears :—"At Ruabon is one old monument on a hill called the Garden, dubble trenched, which might seem to have byn a Strong castell, and is in Bromfeld."

2. Pennant (*Tours*, i, 373) speaks of it in the following terms :—"On the road [from Ruabon to Wrexham] I digressed a little to the left, to visit a great *Caer* in this parish [Rhiwabon], called the *Garthen*, i.e. *Caer-ddin*, seated on a summit of a hill commanding a most extensive view around. . . . This *Caer* contains about four acres of ground, protected in some parts by one, in others with two very strong dikes and deep ditches. The inner dike is made of loose stones, with a wall of vast thickness on the top. Within the area are many vestiges of buildings, the habitations of the old possessors. It lies 200 yards from *Offa's* dike."

NAME. "*Gardden*," properly "*Y Gardden*," is the mutated form of *Cardden*, which is said to signify "thicket, brake." The word occurs in one of the poems of Dafydd ap Gwilym :

"Cerddais ar draws naw cardden,
Ac ar hyd moel gaerau hen."

(I walked across nine brakes
And along old bare walls.)

Pennant's derivation—*Caer-ddin*—is untenable.

The field is at present known as "*Chesterfield*."

Visited May, 1913, Ap. 3, 1918, and June 1, 1926.

[*Inventory*, No. 615, p. 176.]

ARTIFICIAL MOUND : WYNNSTAY.

SITE. The site of this is 1 m. s. of Ruabon Station, in the N.W. corner, and near the gate, of the first of the three fields called the "*Riddels*," which belong to the Wynnstay Home Farm.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxxv, s.w. : lat. 52° 58' 17" ; long. 3° 2' 41".]

DESCRIPTION. At present only the base, some $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. high, remains of the mound. What the circumference was is uncertain. Apparently it was about 140 paces.

DESTRUCTION. Mr. Richard Hughes, of Bath Ground, Ruabon, who was employed on the Wynnstay Home Farm between 1883 and 1923, informed the writer that the mound, which he thought was about 9 ft. in height and 60 yds. in circumference, was levelled and the soil spread over the field, in 1890 or thereabouts. The operation, which was superintended by the present Sir W. Williams Wynn, occupied a month. Mr. Robert Evans, also of Bath Ground, who was employed on the job, told Hughes that quantities of stones of different sizes were removed, but that nothing of any interest was found. Previous to its destruction the mound was covered with turf. Elevation : above contour line 300.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. The Rev. H. Longueville Jones, in his list of Denbighshire tumuli in *Arch. Camb.* (1855, p. 262), thus refers to this mound : "Tumulus, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. s. from Ruabon over the Dee on the E. side, perhaps to guard an old ford."

Visited May 8, 1923, and Nov. 20, 1925.

[*Inventory*, No. 622, p. 177.]

BRONZE SOCKETED CELT.

In the British Museum [96 Wall Case] is a plain socketed celt, $3\frac{3}{4}$ in. long and about 2 in. across the cutting edge, with a slight moulding round the mouth of the socket, which is about 1 in. square, stated to have been discovered in Ruabon. It formed part of the Greenwell Collection and is labelled "W.G. [*i.e.* Wm. Greenwell] 1915."

Seen June 11, 1929.

RUTHIN URBAN.

TUMULUS : PERLLAN YR ARLGWYDD.

SITE. This is situated in a field which lies between Ruthin Castle (on w.) and the railway line (on E.), with a row of houses and gardens to the N. The name of the field is "Perllan yr Arglwydd," and belongs to Mr. James Shaw, who bought it when the Castle Estate was sold about 1920.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xix, N.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 6' 45''$; long. $3^{\circ} 18' 23''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The dimensions are : circumference, 90 paces ; height, 3 to 5 ft. It is composed of earth and covered with turf. Four trees grow on it at present. It has been much disturbed, especially in the centre and N. side, a considerable quantity of its material having been carried away. There is no moat. Elevation : below contour line 200.

Seen Aug. 28, 1923.

ST. GEORGE.**REMAINS OF LONG CAIRN AND SEPULCHRAL CHAMBER :
DINORBEN LODGE.**

SITE. These remains are situated about 230 yds. N.E. of Dinorben Lodge, and about $\frac{3}{4}$ m. S. of St. George Church, near a wire fence that crosses the field in which are the Kimmel pheasantries.

[6 in. O.S. sheet v, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 15' 35''$; long. $3^{\circ} 32' 29''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The remains that are left of the cairn which once stood on the spot indicated, though unmistakable, are somewhat meagre, and consist of a roughly semi-circular patch of stones, partly covered with turf, averaging a foot in height, and measuring about 24 paces from E. to W. and 17 from S. to N. The portion of the cairn which lay to the N. of the wire fence referred to above has been completely obliterated. What the length and breadth of the cairn, which was presumably oval or oblong, were it is impossible to say. About 6 yds. from the E. end are 3 large stones huddled together and partially buried under a mass of small stones. These are the remains of a sepulchral chamber. Owing to the ends of the stones being out of sight, exact measurements cannot be obtained, but in each case the length exceeds 6 ft. and the breadth is about 4 ft. The site now serves as a dumping ground for stones collected from the field. Elevation : below contour line 500.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE. The following statement occurs in the *Parochialia* (i, p. 46) :—" There is a Cromlech call'd y Garreg Lwyd abt half a mile southw^d of ye church. Q[uaere] M[elius]." The name " Y Garreg Lwyd " is not known now.

It is not impossible that this was the grave of " Hennin Henben " mentioned in " Englynion Beddau Milwyr Ynys Prydain " (The Stanzas of the Graves of the Soldiers of the Isle of Britain). " Bed hennin henben yn aelwyt dinorben " [*The Bl. Bk. of Carmarthen*, ed. J. G. Evans (Pwllheli, 1906), p. 69 ; *Four Anc. Bks. of Wales* (1868), Skene, ii, 35 ; *Myv. Arch.*, p. 68].

Visited in 1914 and subsequently.

[*Inventory*, No. 631, p. 183.]

SITE OF CAIRN : PEN-Y-GARNEDD.

In the *Parochialia* (i, 43) this entry occurs under Abergele : " Pen y Garnedh rh[wng] Abergele a Lhan San Siôr " (" Pen-y-garnedd between Abergele and St. George "). The name Pen-y-garnedd is not now in use, nor is it to be found in the original 1 in. Ordnance map. According to what seems to be a local tradition it was formerly applied to the spot where the Toll bar or Hen Dyrnpeg stands, that is, the highest point [B.M. 242.6] in the road between Abergele and St. George, about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. W.N.W. of the latter village. There is, however, neither here nor anywhere about a sign of a cairn.

Locality inspected Aug. 24, 1928, and previously.

CAMP: PARC Y MEIRCH.

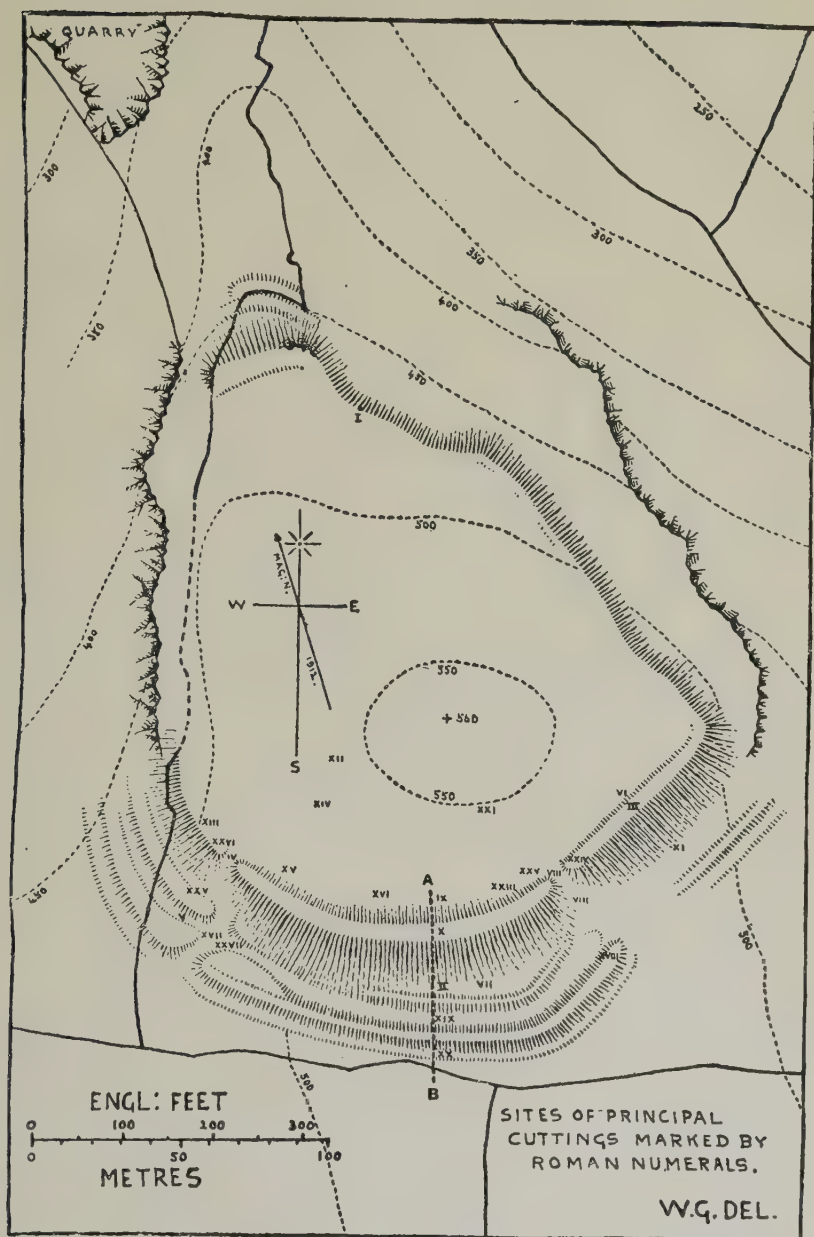


FIG. 140—PLAN OF DINORBEN CAMP.

SITE. This hill fort is situated on a tree-covered limestone cliff, less than half a mile, in a bee line, to the w.s.w. of St. George Church, and about a mile N.W. of the mansion of Kinnel, in the park of which the hill stands.

[6 in. O.S. sheet iv, s.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 16' 1-10''$; long. $3^{\circ} 32' 44-55''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The spur on which the fort is situated is 550 feet in altitude, and commands a fine outlook. The area of the interior of the fort is $5\frac{1}{2}$ acres. In shape it is roughly trilateral. On the w. side no fortification was required, the rock being precipitous. On the N.E., where the declivity is less sharp, there is a low bank. At the N. corner remains of fairly strong defences are to be seen. The main fortifications are to be found on the s., where the area of the fort is practically level with the uplands behind. Here the ramparts and ditches, which are triplicated, are such as would present a formidable barrier to an approaching foe. The inner rampart and ditch are enormous, the distance between the top of the former and the bottom of the latter being 30 yds., the middle, small, and the outer rampart fairly large, but the fosse outside small. The principal entrance is to the S.E. There was also a small entrance near the N. end, a little to the E. The gap through the ramparts on the S.W. side is not original, as was proved by excavation. A considerable part of the interior area is covered with jungle. There are no remains of stone huts, but excavation brought to light the sites and hearths of dwellings made of wood and of wattle and daub.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES. 1. *Parochialia* (Edward Lhuyd, 1699), pt. i, p. 46: "At Pen-y-park als [alias] Kloddieu duon there is an Intrenchment, viz. on ye top of a high rock of Lime stone steep on ye N."

2. Pennant's *Tours* (iii, p. 148): "High above this place [St. George], on the top of a hill called *Pen y Parc*, is a very strong post, said to have been occupied by *Owen Gwynedd* after his fine retreat before Henry II. . . . On the accessible sides are double and treble ditches and ramparts, the others are sufficiently guarded by precipices. The area is near three quarters of a mile round, and, near the edge of the steep part, facing *Rhuddlan*, is smoothed into the form of a terrace." See also *Handbook for the Vale of Clwyd* (W. Davis, 1857²), p. 42.

3. Fenton's *Tours in Wales*, 1804-13 (J. Fisher, 1917), p. 152: "Friday, Sep^r. 9th, 1808: . . . Hence [from St. George] we ascend the Hill above the Village, called *Park y Meirch*, whose Summit is crowned with an antient British Fortification of great extent and strength; on the South west side protected by three deep Vallums; on the North side, being a precipitous side, by a single Agger; and on the other sides in proportion to its natural strength or weakness. On this Eminence there is placed a modern beacon, as being a point commanding a most extensive View. The prospect was most charming and clear, both towards the Sea and the Land."

EXCAVATION. 1. Some excavations were carried out on the site many years ago by Mr. (afterwards) Judge Wynne Ffoulkes, and subsequently by Professor McKenny Hughes, of Cambridge, but unfortunately no records of the work done have been preserved.

2. During the Abergele Meeting of the *Cambrian Archaeological Association* in 1911 a visit was paid to *Parc y Meirch* under the leadership of Mr. Willoughby Gardner, when the President, Prof. W. Boyd Dawkins, urged the *Abergele Antiquarian Society* to undertake the

excavation of the site. Permission having been obtained from Col. Hughes of Kinnel, a sub-committee of the Abergele Society was elected to take the work in hand under the direction of Mr. Gardner.

First Season, 1912. Digging operations lasted for a month, when ten labourers were employed, and several amateurs rendered valuable assistance. "Previous to this a fortnight was spent in preliminary clearing, and in making a survey, the former rendered necessary and the latter difficult by the dense jungle which covered much of the site."

"Excavation work was directed for the most part to the ramparts and ditches, the South east entrance, and a few points in the interior." (*Vide i to xvii on plan.*)

Main Rampart. A cutting made through the s. ramparts about the middle showed that the main agger covered a smaller and earlier one. It also transpired that the outer rampart was added to the original defences at a later date, "as it was thrown up across an ancient road leading from the main entrance."

Entrance. This was found to be a passage 38 ft. long through the ramparts, with side walls of a rude dry masonry. It had a roughly cobbled roadway in which were three pairs of holes for wooden gate posts; charred remains of posts were found in two of the holes. This road dated from the fourth century, as the objects discovered on it witnessed. Below the same, excavation revealed another thoroughfare of superior construction. Underneath this again, a third road, with different post-holes and side-walls, was brought to light.

Finds. On the roadway, and in other places, the following relics were unearthed: large quantities of broken bones of various domestic animals (consumed for food); fragments of urns, bowls, saucers, and *mortaria* made in common red, black, grey, and white wares, fine Samian: pot boilers, corn mealers, whet-stones, and spindle-whorls, mostly broken; horn handles cut from antlers; corroded iron articles such as nails, rings, curved instruments, and a possible key; sling stones and corroded iron spear heads (the only weapons discovered); beads of different kinds; a small bronze ox-head, pronounced by Mr. Reginald A. Smith, F.S.A., of the British Museum, to be "Late Celtic," and of native workmanship; Roman coins—27 in number—of different Emperors as follows: Gallienus (253–268 A.D.), 4; Carausius (287–293), 1; Constans (333–350), 6; Magnentius (350–353), 3; Crispus (317–326), 1; Constantius (292–306), 3; Constantinus (306–337), 4; Julian (355–63), 1; Tetricus (268–273), 1; Gratianus (367–383), 1; Constantius II (323–361), 1; Illegible, 1. These coins, as Mr. Gardner observes, point to the conclusion that the fort was extensively occupied during the fourth century of our era. This, however, was not the first occupation, as was proved by the facts mentioned above with regard to the main and outer ramparts and the entrance.

[*Arch. Camb.*, 1913, pp. 191–198; *British Association Report*—Section H (pp. 611, 612), Dundee, 1912.]

Second Season, 1913. Further excavations were carried out by the help of ten labourers and several amateur assistants during six

weeks in the summer of 1913. Towards the same, grants were made by the *Cambrian Archaeological Association*, and by the Research Committee of Section H of the *British Association*, the secretary of which committee, Prof. R. C. Bosanquet, of Liverpool University, spent five days upon the site.

The work of the season may be summarised thus: (1) Attention was directed to the interior area at the N. end. Also to the artificial defences, especially the ditches, and the entrance at that end. (2) The defences to the S.E. were investigated. And (3) the S.E. entrance was subjected to further examination. Results: (a) It was established that the whole, and not part only, of the interior area was occupied by a large number of people during the 4th century, for identical remains in the shape of implements, Roman pottery and coins were found near the present surface at the S.E., S., S.W., and W. (b) The 4th century entrance at the S.E., which consisted of a passage with roughly built side walls in dry masonry, 38 ft. long, was discovered to have been closed by four gates set up at intervals within its course, of which the holes for the wooden gate-posts, and some charred wood fragments, found in some of them, alone survived. Two guard-houses, one on each side, within the entrance, were also brought to light, their sides being dug out of the fallen *débris* of earlier guard-houses. The plan of an earlier entrance was also in part recovered. It had a good gravelled road way, and side walls in dry masonry better built than those of the later superincumbent entrance. It had also two guard-houses, and post-holes for one gate. (c) Cuttings—18 in all—made at various points in front of the ramparts revealed at the N. end a single ditch below the main rampart, V-shaped, and cut in rock, across the spur of the hill, which was continued along the N.E. side. It was filled to the brim with limestone rubble, which was shown to have been deliberately thrown down to the ditch, and not long after the ditch was dug. At the S. side three more or less parallel ditches across the neck of land in front of the great rampart were exposed. The whole length of the inner ditch here also was seen to have been filled with the ruin of a wall which previously stood on the rampart above. (d) Certain "finds" pointed to the approximate date of the re-occupation of the camp in the 4th century by natives, such as coins—37 in number between this and last season—found in 16 different spots, most of which were struck in Gaul between 335 and 380. (e) At well nigh every point where investigations were made there were clear indications that the camp was deliberately destroyed at an early period of its existence—in the first century A.D., as Mr. Gardner thinks. There were also traces of a great conflagration in the large quantities of burned limestone found in several places, e.g. below the floors and walls of the guard chambers in the S.E. entrance.

[*British Association Report*, Section H—Birmingham, 1913.]

Third Season, 1914. The work of this year occupied about six weeks, when 10 labourers and a foreman were employed. Volunteers again rendered much help. The excavators were once more greatly

assisted by a Research Committee of Section H of the *British Association*, whose secretary, Prof. R. C. Bosanquet, spent two days upon the site, and by the Association's grant towards the cost.

Main Rampart. Operations were directed to the massive dry masonry wall discovered in 1913 running crosswise in the thickness of the main rampart, 18 ft. to the E. of the S.E. entrance. The rampart, which stood 9 ft. high and was 28 ft. thick at this point, consisted in the main of rubble-stone, but approaching the ground level many large slabs and roughly-squared stones were encountered near the cross-wall. The cross-wall was laid bare to its foundation. Here was an entrance earlier than the three unearthed in 1912 and 1913, which seemed to have suffered forcible destruction by the throwing down of its western wall, of which there was no trace, into the passage. Post holes were detected in this entrance, one 11 ft. from the outer end, another at the inner corner where the cross-wall turned off sharply 2 ft. to the right, and then curved round in its first direction for several feet further, forming a shallow recess. Two more post-holes were discovered opposite to those mentioned, and 9 ft. from the cross wall. The Roadway, which lay between the two pairs of post-holes, was 9 ft. wide and gravelled. It was traced in an outward direction running beneath and beyond the later facing wall of the rampart. In an inward direction it also continued beneath the back wall of the previously excavated guard-houses and two inner casing walls of the rampart.

West Side of Roadway. Excavations were carried out here on the inner side, some 25 ft. from the S.E. entrance. From a foot or so below the surface down to the original ground level abundant evidence of fire was found in the shape of burnt lime, stones, clay, and wood. Deposits of burnt lime were discovered in an eastward direction beneath the foundation of the guard houses on this side belonging to the entrances excavated in 1912 and 1913.

Road-levels. These were further investigated. (1) The upper one, which ran down the slope towards the E.S.E., crossed over, at a distance of 45 ft. from its outermost post-holes, the end of the first ditch, the whole of which had been filled and hidden from sight by stony *débris* at some earlier date. (2) The second could not be distinguished far beyond the entrance passage. (3) The third ran S.S.E. till it was crossed and covered by the end of the outermost rampart. This was from 12 to 15 ft. wide, and made of small blue gravel laid, 6 in. thick at its centre, upon the original ground surface.

N.E. Entrance. (1) This was located in 1912. In 1913 a rock causeway leading up to it between the ends of two ditches was brought to light. When the *débris* which choked this entrance, 5 ft. deep, was removed, it was found to be a passage about 10 ft. long and 10 ft. wide, at right angles, through the rampart. No side walls were found, but 4 post-holes were unearthed, one pair at either end of the passage. The roadway ascending steeply through this entrance passage was of rock, the interstices of which were filled in with small blue gravel. (2) At a later date another and smaller entrance seems to have been cut through the *débris* which filled the original entrance after

its destruction. This was only $4\frac{1}{2}$ ft. wide. Portions of side walls of dry masonry remained, and two pairs of small shallow post-holes were found cut in the rock.

S.W. Side of Main Rampart. A cutting was made through the rampart at this point, and some 55 square yards of the interior area adjacent investigated with the riddle. The construction of the rampart seemed to show a later and larger rampart covering an earlier and smaller one.

Finds. (1) In Early Entrance. The only relics found here were pieces of broken bone of *bos longifrons* trodden into the roadway, some charcoal, a broken pot-boiler, and a small bone scraper—undatable. (2) Inside the main rampart some 25 ft. from the entrance fragments of black and red pottery were unearthed, at a depth of a foot. (3) Roads outside the S.E. Entrance. Here, at the depth of 1 ft. there were found a bronze hook and eye bracelet with dot and ring ornament, and a small bronze crozier-shaped object. (4) North Entrance. On the lower floor the only objects detected were broken bones, some pot-boilers, and charcoal. But 2 or 3 ft. above the original floor fragments of Roman pottery, iron nails, Roman glass beads, and 2 coins of Constantine were unearthed. (5) Area inside Rampart at the S.W. Side. In addition to objects the same as those found elsewhere at a similar level, there were found a part of a penannular brooch, an interesting bronze gilt ornament, several ear-rings, and other articles of coiled bronze wire, a bone toggle, a very small iron sickle, part of a horse-shoe, a good flint scraper, and fragments of red incense bowl, of painted white *mortaria*, of “*calcite*” or “*vesicular*” ware, and several portions of black bowls mended with iron rivets.

[*Report of British Association*, Section H—Manchester, 1915.]

Fourth Season, 1919. Excavations were restarted in November, 1919, after the Great War (1914–1918) during which all operations were suspended.

(1) S.W. Cutting. (a) Attention was first directed to the floors belonging to two occupations previously discovered in the cutting made through the main rampart on the S.W. The cutting was considerably widened in order to examine the wall belonging to an earlier construction which had been found beneath the lower of the two floors. In doing this, further areas of the floor were brought to view. More relics of the 4th century were discovered on the uppermost. Between this and the lower an intermediate floor was found. On this lay bones, pot-boilers, etc., but no pottery or coins. (b) Below the wall top, noticed in 1914 beneath the earlier floor, was found another rampart about 5 ft. high, backed with an 8 ft. thick core of large stones and rubble. This, which was erected on another floor surface of dark soil, 6 in. thick, seemed to be a portion of the earliest defence constructed on the site. (2) S. Side Cutting. Previously the rampart here had only been cut across the upper portion. It was now cut deeper and widened. The same 4 floors were found here also, the earliest at a level of 27 ft. below the present crest. Upon this latter

floor there was found a continuation of the rampart discovered on the lowest floor in the s.w. cutting. This rampart had clearly been thrown down almost to its foundation, and its stones filled an earth-cut ditch 10 ft. wide. This ditch and rampart formed part of the earliest defences erected on the hill-side. Underneath this rampart was discovered what seemed to have been a "cooking hearth," which must have existed before this earliest rampart was thrown up. The hearth was composed of stones fractured by heat, and were such as are usually recognised as pot-boilers. Upon and among these stones numerous bones of domestic animals were found, many broken for marrow, as well as much charcoal. (3) Eight-five square yards of the top floor inside the stronghold were explored, and many relics, including Roman coins, were discovered.

[*Report of British Association*, Section H—Cardiff, 1920; *Arch. Camb.*, 1921, pp. 334–8.]

Fifth Season, 1922. The work of excavating was resumed this year on the 8th of May, Mr. Willoughby Gardner again superintending and taking observations. Six labourers were employed for six weeks. Voluntary assistance was rendered by several persons, including Dr. Shirley Jones, Mr. Howel Williams, Mr. J. R. Ellis, Dr. Elliott, Revs. T. Roberts, R.N., Ll. A. Richards, and Ellis Davies.

This Season three fresh cuttings were made in the great rampart with the object of further delimiting and dating the constructions belonging to the various occupations. Of these cuttings two were on the s.w. side, and one on the s.s.e. just to the w. of the main entrance. Abundant evidence was forthcoming to prove that the camp had been constructed, occupied, and destroyed at four consecutive periods.

(a) S.W. Cuttings. In the westernmost of these, right under the great rampart, was found, considerably below the level of the interior, a strong stone wall which was part of the earliest defences constructed on the site. Nine feet or so outside this wall a ditch was found, about 2 yds. in width and 2 yds. in depth, hewn in the solid rock. Outside this again, at about the same distance, another ditch of similar description, but a little narrower, was discovered. These ditches had been covered by the ruined rampart belonging to the second period of occupation.

In the other s.w. Cutting none of the earliest rampart remained *in situ*, but the material of which it had been made was seen filling the first ditch. On the top of the great rampart, at this point, a stretch of parapet was laid bare. The face of the wall on the inside, in front of the platform, was remarkably well preserved. On the outside, however, it had fallen down.

(b) S.S.E. Cutting. A portion of the ruined rampart of the earliest period was brought to light here again. The remains of the 2nd and 3rd periods were indistinguishable from one another, "but the superincumbent main rampart of the 4th period was preserved intact, except for the loss of its parapet walk." This Cutting revealed a curved wall-face, which proved to be a semi-circular bastion belonging to the rampart of the 2nd period.

(c) S.E. Entrance. The existence of three consecutively constructed entrances was now proved, as well as the earlier one a few yards to the east.

(d) Interior Surface. A considerable patch of ground close to the great rampart on the inside about midway between the entrance and the westernmost cutting was examined to a depth of 1 or $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. Here all the soil removed was carefully riddled.

Finds. (a) In Cuttings. These included: (1) An iron axe-head, $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. long by 3 in. across the cutting edge—"a well known native type current in Britain in the 1st and 2nd centuries A.D." It was covered with a thick incrustation of rust, and was extraordinarily heavy for its size. This was found on the rock underneath the great rampart "between the ruin of the earliest rampart and the edge of the earliest ditch," in the westernmost cutting. (2) A hammer made of stag-horn, found in the rock-ditch in the same cutting.

(b) In Interior Patches. (1) A bronze bracelet (broken) with dot and ring ornamentation. (2) Portion of a parti-coloured glass bracelet. (3) A bronze ring. (4) Several Roman coins, bringing the number discovered during the five excavation seasons up to nearly 200. The majority were minted in Gaul between A.D. 335 and 353: a single coin of the Emperor Gratian dated as late as A.D. 380. (5) Pieces of native hand-made pottery. All these finds belonged to the last period of occupation.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS. Dr. Willoughby Gardner's summing up of the results of his excavation of the fort may be found in his Presidential Address at the Pwllheli Meeting in 1926 (*Arch. Camb.*, 1926, pp. 232, 236, 246, 260, 263, 268, 270, 273). From this address we make the following apropos quotations: "At Dinorben . . . the huge rampart was found, on cutting through it, to consist of the piled-up remains of four superincumbent constructions representing the fortifications of four successive hill-forts. It was not possible to disentangle the ruins of these four constructions—in particular to distinguish between the defences of the second and third fort; but the fortifications of the first and fourth fort were clear and distinct from those of the others. . . . The first fort . . . had a stone-faced rampart and a narrow rock-cut ditch immediately in front of it, and at one point it had a second similar ditch. The second and the third forts were quite different. Their ramparts were again faced and also backed with stone, but they had a wide and deep military ditch in front of them, of which the counterscarp was 60 feet away from the face of the main rampart. Possibly the third fort had a second wide ditch beyond the first, but this is not quite clear. The fourth fort had also a stone faced rampart which was piled high upon that of the previous fort. It had a still larger military ditch, extending beyond the earlier one. This was constructed by throwing up another bank to form its counterscarp at a distance of 120 ft. in front of the great rampart. The lower bank, which had formed the counterscarp to the ditch of the second fort, still remained, and it served as an obstacle in the middle of the huge military ditch of the fourth fort. The two

ditches on either side of this bank were also deepened to form further obstacles, and the trench from which the material for the outer bank was thrown up formed yet another obstacle ditch beyond it. It is to be noted that the great rampart of the fourth fort was terraced behind to form banquettes or rampart walks for the defenders. The date of

construction of the fourth fort . . . was towards the close of the third century A.D. The actual dates of construction of the three earlier forts, however, have not been determined, owing to absence of definitely datable relics. But they must have followed one another respectively. We have therefore a sequence dating for, at any rate, the three distinct forms of fortification at Dinorben.

"Entrances. The entrance to the first fort was a straight-cut passage through the rampart, with four great post holes (either for 2 gates or for a double barricade of logs) at the inner end of the flanked passage. There are no guard chambers here. The entrance in the 2nd and 3rd forts was a flanked passage through the rampart with two large post holes for a gate at its inner end and two square guard chambers beyond. The entrance into the fourth fort was a long and slightly curved passage cut through the wide-spreading ruins left by previous destructions. It has 8 small post holes for 4 gates distributed along the length of the passage. It also has two small guard chambers which were dug out of the ruins of the earlier ones. Of these successive entrances, the only one that can so far be dated is that last described, which was constructed towards the end of the 3rd or very early in the 4th century A.D."

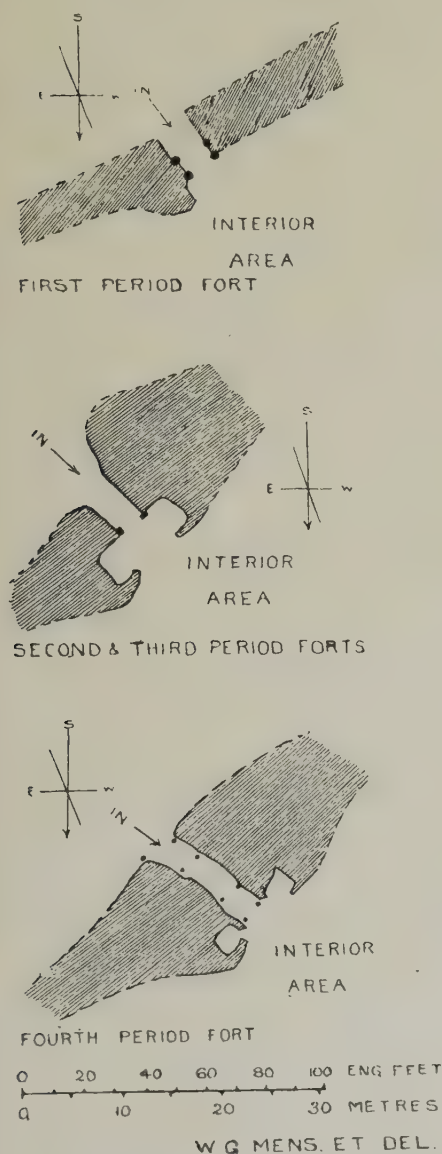


FIG. 141—DINORBEN. PLANS OF ENTRANCES (S.E.) TO THE FOUR SUCCESSIVE HILL FORTS ON THE SITE, AS EXCAVATED.

[*Bulletin of Board of Celtic Studies*, vol. i, pt. iii, 1922, pp. 276-7; *The Antiquaries Journal*, Jan., 1923, pp. 72-3; *Heart of Northern Wales*, vol. ii, pp. 69 ff.]

This account of the excavation of the Parc y Meirch Camp is simply an abridgement of various reports made from time to time by Dr. Willoughby Gardner, F.S.A.

MOUND : DINORBEN.

SITE. This stands in the field, called Pant Mawr (No. 178 in the Tithe map), immediately to the s. of Dinorben Farm, a few yards from the road leading to St. George and Abergele from Sarn Rug.

[6 in. O.S. sheet, iv, s.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 15' 31''$; long. $3^{\circ} 32' 43''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The mound in question, which is probably natural, measures about 75 paces in circumference and $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height. It is composed of soil and covered with turf and is undisturbed. Elevation : above contour line 400.

Seen Sept. 27, 1922, and previously.

BRONZE HORSE TRAPPINGS : PARC Y MEIRCH.

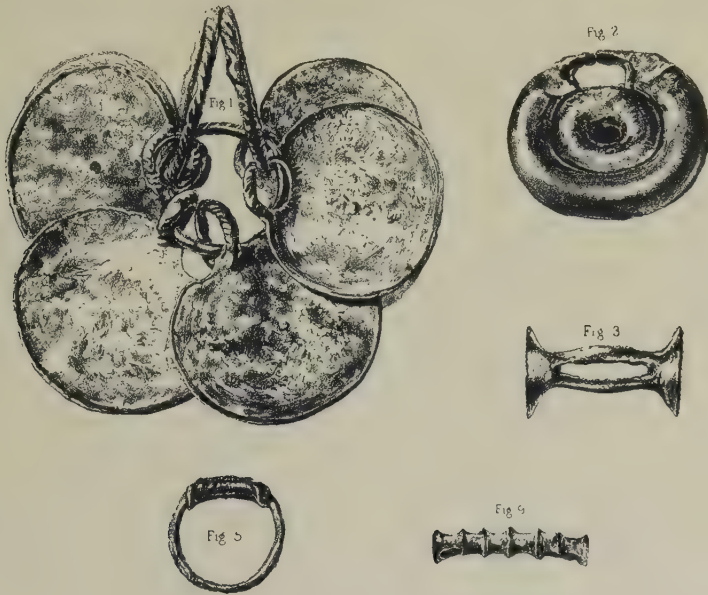
DISCOVERY. An account of the discovery of these articles is given in a letter which the late H. R. Hughes, Esq., of Kinmel Park, wrote to the late A. W. Franks, Esq., F.S.A., of the British Museum, when he submitted a considerable portion of the hoard to him for examination in 1868 (*Archaeologia*, vol. xliii, pp. 556, 557). The account is as follows :—"The bronze ornaments were found in a bed of broken limestone mixed with soil, at the foot of a crag which forms part of a hill called Parc-y-meirch. . . . They were lying all together at a depth of about three feet below the surface, under the roots of an old ash tree. There are no large stones on the spot to indicate a cairn, but small bits of rotten bone are found mixed up with the soil. A jaw-bone was found in another part of the same bed of broken stone, which extends for about one hundred yards along the base of the crag, and in some places is of considerable depth—say thirty feet. Within the last three weeks many more bones have come to light, also fragments of skulls, and a portion of another lower jawbone, with three teeth in it. And the workmen tell me that they are constantly finding bones which crumble to dust as soon as they touch them." The exact spot where the trappings were found was quite near the road, where the quarry now is, close to the junction of two roads, less than $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W. of St. George Church, and N. of the hill-fort of Parc-y-meirch.

[6 in. O.S. sheet iv, s.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 16' 12-13''$; long. $3^{\circ} 32' 57''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The following is the description of the objects given by Mr. (later Sir) A. W. Franks :—

1. "A Singular object consisting of three pairs of irregular oval plates with loops, through which is passed a bar of the same metal. The loops show marks of wear, and the whole was probably a jingling ornament to be attached to horse harness." Two specimens are preserved at Kinmel Park. One has only five plates.

2. "Double rings or bullae cast hollow. To the inner one has been attached a loop, which fitted into a hole in the outer ring. There were portions of nine specimens of this description." There are three rings now.



(Reproduced with the permission of the Society of Antiquaries.)

FIG. 142—HORSE TRAPPINGS, PARC Y MEIRCH.

3. "A reel shaped object with a long oval slit."
 4. "Portion of a buckle somewhat of a late Celtic type."
 5. "Rings, probably for straps: of these there are three varieties." There are eight of these buckles at Kinmel.

6. "Slides, also probably used for straps; they are of various widths, and forty-two specimens were discovered." (Fig. 9.)

7. "Hollow rings, of which twelve were found all of the same size." Nine seem to be of the same size, three a little larger, and two tiny ones.

8. "Buttons or studs with concentric raised circles: eighteen of these have been preserved, of various dimensions."

About 90 pieces were exhibited at the Institute of the Society of Antiquaries, London, March 26, 1868.

PRESENT LOCATION. These objects are carefully preserved in glass cases at Kinmel Park. Through the kindness of Col. H. B. L. Hughes they were inspected by the writer in February, 1919, and August 24, 1928.

OTHER SPECIMENS. About a dozen specimens from the hoard came into the possession of Mrs. E. M. Humphreys (née Carmichael), of the Cambrian Arms, Abergele. When she died, in 1890, they

became the property of her brother, Mr. D. C. Carmichael, who, at his death in 1910, left them to his nephew, Mr. John Hannah, Chemist, of Abergele, who, in January, 1925, presented them, through the writer, to St. Asaph Cathedral Library (Chapter House), where they are preserved in a show case.



FIG. 143—HORSE TRAPPINGS, PARC Y MEIRCH
(AT ST. ASAPH).

- DESCRIPTION. 1. Bronze curb chain.
2. Slides for straps : four specimens, of the same size.
3. Buckles : three kinds.
4. Buttons : four of different sizes and designs.
5. A spindle whorl.

First seen by the writer in 1913. Photographed in 1915.

DATE. These objects, which formed part of the trappings of a horse, were assigned by the late Sir A. W. Franks to the close of the Bronze period in England. He maintained that there was nothing distinctly Roman or Late Celtic in the ornamentation, and in this view Mr. Reginald A. Smith, of the British Museum, concurs.

[*Archaeologia*, vol. xliii, pp. 556-7 ; *Arch. Camb.*, 1875, p. 89 ; *Inventory*, No. 640, pp. 185-6.]

SPINDLE WHORL : PANT-Y-CLYD.

A well-made whorl, $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter and $\frac{1}{2}$ in. thick, resembling a miniature grinding stone, was in 1918 picked up from a mole heap in the field immediately to the w. of Pant-y-clud House by the tenant, Mr. J. Hughes. It was given to the writer, April 3, 1928.

QUERN STONE : PANT-Y-CLYD.

The writer was shown at Pant-y-clyd on April 3, 1928, an upper quern stone measuring $17\frac{1}{2}$ in. across, and from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 in. thick. The under side is slightly convex, while the upper surface is somewhat uneven. The orifice—in the centre—is $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter on the under side and $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. on the outside. Mr. J. Hughes, the tenant (born in 1864), always remembers the stone in the yard. At the suggestion of the writer he promised to send it to be preserved at St. George Church.

QUERN STONE : PARC Y MEIRCH.

A portion of a saddle quern or Mealer (Müller), measuring about $16 \times 10 \times 4$ in., was discovered some years ago in the area of the hill-fort of Parc-y-meirch, St. George, together with some human bones. The stone is a conglomerate. It is preserved at Kinmel Park, the residence of Colonel H. B. L. Hughes.

Seen Feb., 1919.

TIR IFAN.

TUMULI (?) : CERRIG ELLGWM ISAF.

I.

SITE. One is situated in swampy ground about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.N.W. of the farmstead of Cerrig Ellgwm Isaf, which is $1\frac{3}{4}$ m. to the S.E. of Ysbyty Ifan Church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiii, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 1' 14''$; long. $3^{\circ} 42' 3''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This is composed of peat and covered with coarse grass. Its circumference is 38 paces, and its height $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. Elevation : above contour line 900.

II.

Twenty yards or so farther N. is a smaller tumulus, about half of which has been cut away and removed.

III.

About 150 yds. to the w. of No. 1 is another mound, oval in shape, 12 paces long by 8 broad, composed of peat and covered with coarse grass. Elevation : above contour line 900.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiii, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 1' 15''$; long. $3^{\circ} 42' 10''$.]

Seen Feb. 18, 1926.

TUMULUS (?) : YNYS WEN.

SITE. The position of this is in a swamp about 400 yds. to the N. of the homestead of Ynys Wen Farm, which is a little under a mile to the S.E. of Ysbyty Ifan Church.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiii, s.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 1' 15''$; long. $3^{\circ} 42' 26''$.]

DESCRIPTION. This is composed of peat. Part of the n. side has been cut away by peat diggers. Its diameter over all is 18 paces, its height 4 ft.

Seen Feb. 18, 1926.

TRE-BRYS.

CAMP : Y GAER.

SITE. The site known as "Y Gaer" lies between $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the s.s.w. of Pentrevoelas Church, but in the civil parish of Tre-Brys, which forms part of the ecclesiastical parish of Ysbyty Ifan.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 45''$; long. $3^{\circ} 41' 1''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The site in question is a low circular hill with gradually sloping sides, the summit of which is between 700 and 800 ft. above sea-level and about 100 ft. above the surrounding land. Standing as it does in the middle of a wide, shallow valley, it would be an advantageous position for a camp. The remains of fortifications, however, are meagre and uncertain. What appears most like an artificial defence is a stretch of curved bank, about 150 yds. long, on the n.e. side of the hill, some 200 yds. from the farm buildings that crown the summit. Writing in the fifties of last century, the late Rev. J. Evans, then vicar of Pentrevoelas, states that lines of ancient earthworks could be distinctly traced at the n. and n.w. base of the hill near the River Nug (*MS. History of the Parish of Pentrevoelas*, kept at the Vicarage).

Visited May, 1913, and subsequently.

BRYN BEDDAU : RHYDLYDAN.

SITE. A field of this name, "Bryn Beddau" (The Hill of Graves), lies immediately behind, that is, s. of, Glandwr Cottages, Rhydlydan ($1\frac{1}{4}$ m. s.e. of Pentrevoelas Church). To the e. is Bryn Beddau Bach, abutting on the River Marddwr.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxiv, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 33''$; long. $3^{\circ} 39' 7''$.]

FINDS. There are at present no traces of graves in the field in question, but coins and other objects have been discovered in it. (1) Writing in *Cymru* (O. M. Edwards) for 1903, p. 122, the late Mr. John Davies (Asiedydd o Walia), states that about 1847 W. Morris, late of Bryn Dedwydd, when ploughing Bryn Beddau, a field on Penrhyn Farm, near Rhydlydan, came upon several ancient coins. Nothing is now known of them. (2) In 1919 Hugh Williams (born in 1842), Bryn Llaethog, informed the writer that about the same year (1847), when a small boy, he picked up what he regarded as two coins in Bryn Beddau Mawr as H. Humphreys, Bron y Parc, was raising stones for building Glandwr Cottages. They were 6 ft. in the ground about the middle of the field. The objects in question, which the writer examined, Feb. 18, 1926, are two brass discs, $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter and between $\frac{1}{10}$ and $\frac{1}{8}$ in. in thickness. Their surfaces are perfectly

smooth and bear no traces of any impression. They were caked together when found. They remain in H. Williams's possession.

Field visited July 7, 1920.

TREFNANT.

FLINT CELT: TYNLON.

DISCOVERY. This implement was picked up in the autumn of 1913 by Mr. David Roberts, of Tynlon, which is $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. E.S.E. of Trefnant village, in ploughing Cae Morfa—the second field on the right-hand side of the road to Denbigh from Tremeirchion after crossing the road from Bodfari to Trefnant.



FIG. 144—1, SPINDLE WHORL, TYNLON; 2, FLINT AXE, TYNLON; 3, FRAGMENT OF PALSTAVE, LLANFAIRTAIHAERNA.

Roberts took the stone home thinking it was a "flint for a tinder box." Passing the house soon afterwards, Mr. A. G. Martin, then of Rhyl, noticed the implement and secured it.

[6 in. O.S. sheet ix, s.w. : lat. $53^{\circ} 13' 4''$; long. $3^{\circ} 23' 58''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The following is the report of Mr. Reginald A. Smith, of the British Museum, to whom the flint stone was sent by Mr. Frank Simpson, of Chester:—"Your specimen started life as a neolithic celt, polished all over, probably with a sharp edge on the butt (or head). The butt end was accidentally broken off. Somebody trimmed the stump roughly, so as to be more comfortable in the hand. There was hardly room for a haft on the second implement thus formed."

PRESENT LOCATION. The axe was presented by Mr. A. G. Martin, of Maes-y-coed Terrace, Caerwys Station, in December, 1924, to the St. Asaph Cathedral Library (Chapter House), where it is exhibited.

Seen August, 1914.

SPINDLE WHORL : TYNLON.

WHERE FOUND. This was discovered by Mr. David Roberts, of Tynlon, in 1919, in the same field as the broken stone axe just dealt with was found.

DESCRIPTION. The whorl is $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter and $\frac{3}{8}$ in. in thickness. The hole, which is not quite in the centre, is of uniform diameter. On either side are eight straight lines cut from the hole to the circumference resembling the spokes of a wheel. The distance between them varies a little. One face has been badly chipped and the other slightly.

PRESENT LOCATION. The spindle was presented, July 25, 1922, to the writer, who intends depositing it in the St. Asaph Cathedral Library.

WREXHAM.

TUMULUS : HILLBURY.

SITE. Hillbury is a residence situated on the outskirts of Wrexham, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. s. of the Parish Church, belonging [till his death in 1929] to Major Thomas Oswell Bury, and occupied by Mr. George Mowat. The tumulus stands just behind the house to the N.E.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxviii, S.E. : lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 14''$; long. $2^{\circ} 59' 35''$.]

DESCRIPTION. It is about 30 paces in diameter and about 4 yds. high in the centre. Only about half of the mound, which is composed of earth, remains. Elevation : above contour line 200.

EXCAVATION. In December, 1862, when the late Mr. John Bury, father of Mr. Thomas Bury, Solicitor (from whom the following particulars were obtained), and grandfather to Mrs. Dorothy Mowat, was laying out a kitchen garden for his new house, he was recommended to level part of the mound, the true nature of which was not at the time realised, and to leave about one-half of the bank as shelter for the garden from the cold winds. The soil at the base having been removed, a rough wall was brought to light. This was composed of round, dark-stained stones of smallish size, mixed slightly with soil. A yard or so farther into the mound portions of bones were found, together with a few teeth, afterwards pronounced by Dr. T. Eyton Jones to be human. After this Mr. Thomas Bury, whose interest was aroused, gave the workmen directions to be very watchful lest they should destroy anything, and to let him know at once if they came upon any "find." Being sent for one evening almost at dusk, he hurried from the office where he was serving as an articled clerk and found that a labourer, using a pickaxe, had struck into and displaced, at the top of the mound, slabs of stone, which seemed to have been placed to protect an earthenware urn, of which two or three fragments with portions of bones—apparently incinerated—remained. In all probability the cist-stones, which were only one foot below the surface, had been previously disturbed, possibly by the plough. There was no further digging into the mound, and trees were planted on it. The slabs composing the cist were reddish sandstone, obtained apparently near King's Mill, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. distant.

Urn or Urns. The urn fragments, after having been carefully kept for about 40 years in a drawer at Hillbury, were, in 1907, presented by Mr. J. Bury to the Public Library, Wrexham, together with pen-and-ink drawings of the same by Mr. T. Bury made about the time of the finding. These are exhibited in a showcase in the Library Museum. The fragments now in the case represent portions of two vessels, one, a food vessel, being of a much deeper brown tint than the other, which evidently contained the incinerated bones, as the blackness of the wall, seen in section, indicates. Both vessels presumably were found in the tumulus. The fragments extant are of the upper parts only.

1. Food Vessel. This is of reddish-brown colour. The fragment that survives is covered with small oblique strokes. Its ornament is thus described by Dr. Cyril Fox in *Arch. Camb.* for 1925, pp. 180-1 :

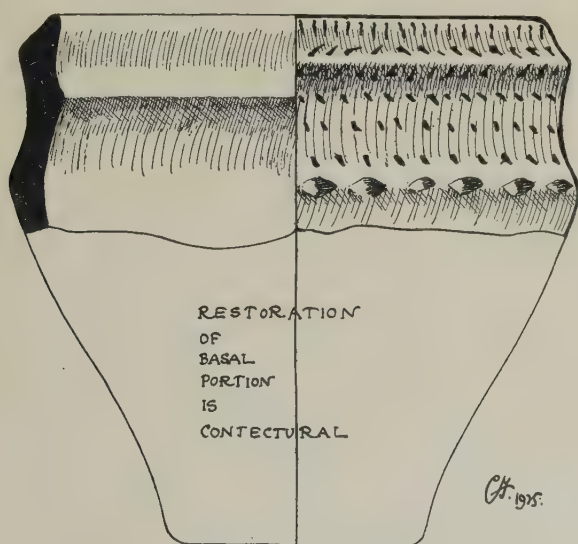


FIG. 145—FOOD VESSEL FROM HILLBURY TUMULUS.

“ This consists of successive zones of deep (stab) incisions which vary somewhat in shape and size, as the diagram [a diagrammatic restoration of the vessel, here reproduced] indicates ; below these on the angle of the shoulder there is a series of depressions.” As restored, this measures 9·2 in. in height and 9·9 in. in diameter.

2. Cinerary Urn. This is light-brown in colour outside, and black inside. It is made of somewhat coarse material. This is Dr. Fox's description : “ It presents a succession of broad horizontal ribs or ridges extending from rim to shoulder. The wide hollow below the ridge at the rim is ornamented with incised herringbone ; elsewhere the ridges are defined by V-shaped indentations produced by pressing a spatulate tool into the clay. The body of the vessel below the

shoulder is unornamented. Internally, the lip shows a bold and effective moulding, ornamented with 'V' impressions and incised herringbone."

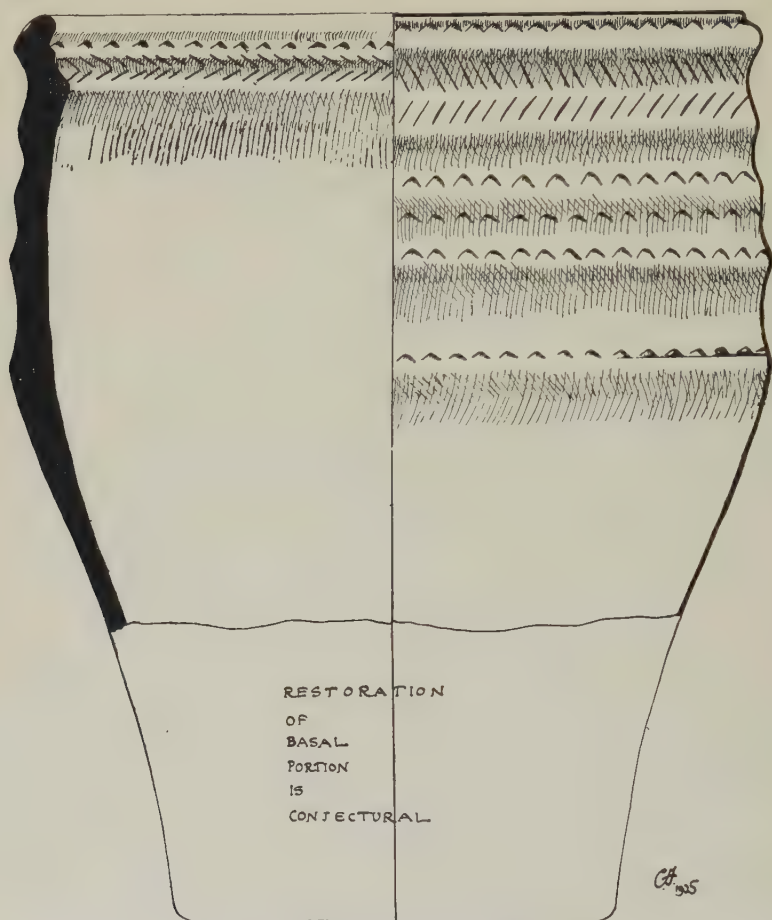


FIG. 146—CINERARY URN FROM HILLBURY TUMULUS.

NAME. The name of the field in which the tumulus stood is said to have been Cae'r Garnedd (Field of the Cairn) in 1620 (see A. N. Palmer's *History of Wrexham*, p. 184). Later it bore the name Cae Bryn (Hill Field). The name Hillbury is modern, having been given to the house by Mr. J. Bury, after the mound or hill and his own surname, at the suggestion of the then vicar, Canon Cunliffe.

Hillbury visited in Nov., 1916; fragments of urns seen May 3, 1920; and particulars received from Mr. T. Bury in Dec., 1917.

[*Wrexham Advertizer*, Dec., 1862; *Inventory*, No. 652, p. 189.]

TUMULUS: FAIRY MOUNT.

SITE. Fairy Mount, the residence of Mr. W. H. Wright, is situate a little over $\frac{1}{2}$ m. s.w. of Wrexham Parish Church, on the w. side of Fairy Road, not far from the main road to Ruabon. The barrow stands in the front garden, and now forms an ornamental feature.

[6 in. O.S. sheet xxviii, s.e. : lat. $53^{\circ} 2' 21''$; long. $2^{\circ} 59' 50''$.]

DESCRIPTION. The tumulus is—at least at present—bell-shaped, a variety unknown elsewhere in Denbighshire, but not uncommon in other parts of the country, for instance, Wiltshire. In height the mound is about 5 ft. and in circumference about 60 yds. The slope on the n.w. side is somewhat flattened, possibly through the operation of the elements, and the fringe on the w. side has been cut away in making a lawn. On the top is a very old oak-tree which, in 1916, still showed signs of life. Elevation : above contour line 200.

EXCAVATION. In 1882 (Feb. 25) the late Alderman W. E. Samuel (died Oct., 1917), who had recently purchased the plot on which the barrow stood, had a narrow trench cut into the centre from the e. side. The work was conducted under the supervision of the late Mr. Edward Hamilton Acton (then of Cambridge), brother to the late Mr. T. Arthur Acton, and Mr. T. Bury, Solicitor, Wrexham. Traces of the cutting are still noticeable. On the original level of the ground, about 25 ft. from where the opening was commenced, and at a depth of 8 ft. from the surface, a heap of much decomposed human bones was discovered in the soil unprotected by a cist or stones of any description.

Urn. “A little distance from the bones and towards the North were found four fine fragments of rude pottery, not in good preservation, but still sufficiently large to give an idea of what shaped vessel they had composed, and which appears to have been an old drinking cup.” There was no ornamentation on the urn.

PRESENT LOCATION. The fragments were given to Mr. E. H. Acton, and after his death at Cambridge passed into the custody of his brother, Mr. T. A. Acton (died 1925), in whose possession they remained.

NAME. The house Fairy Mount takes its name from the tumulus which bore that designation, the popular belief at one time being that fairies danced and played round it. The oak tree growing on the top is called “The Fairy Oak,” and the field in which the mound stood was called “Fairy Field” or “Oak-tree Field.”

Seen Nov., 1916.

[*Vide* A. N. Palmer's *History of Wrexham* (1890), p. 203 ; *The Antiquary*, April, 1882, p. 176 ; *Inventory*, No. 653, p. 190. Some of the above particulars were derived from Mr. T. Bury.]

ROMAN ROAD FROM DEVA (CHESTER) TO SEGONTIUM (CAERNARVON).

Of the XV Roman Routes of Great Britain dealt with in the Itinerary of Antonine (*Itinerarium Antonini Augusti*), a document supposed to date from the reign of Caracalla (A.D. 211–217), one of the Antonine Emperors, the road from Deva to Segontium, which is the eleventh in order (generally styled “Iter xi”), is the only one that traverses any part of Denbighshire.

The route with distances is thus given in the Itinerary :—

Item a Segontio Devam	..	..	mpm	lxxiiii
Conovio	..	..	..	xxiii
Varis	..	..	..	xviii
Deva	..	..	..	xxxii
[From Carnarvon to Chester	..	..	74	miles.
„ Carnarvon to Caerhun	..	..	24	„
„ Caerhun to Varae	..	..	18	„
„ Varae to Chester	..	..	32	„]

The particular portion of this road with which we are concerned is that which lies between Varae (or Varis) and Conovium.

Conovium is unquestionably Caerhun, a Roman camp four miles s. of Conway town, on the Caernarvonshire bank of the River Conway.

Varae, being 18 Roman miles from Conovium, would be somewhere near the boundary between the counties of Denbigh and Flint. The site has not yet been certainly identified, but the most probable location of the station is at St. Asaph, where, in a field just to the s. of the Bishop's Palace, is a quadrilateral area enclosed by a low bank suggestive of a Roman camp.

Other sites that have been proposed are the following :—Bodfari, by Camden (*Britannia*, p. 602) ; Caerwys, by Gough, in his Edition of Camden's *Britannia*, 1789, iii, 590, and by Shrubsole (*Arch. Camb.*, 1892, p. 257) ; Pontruffydd, $\frac{3}{4}$ m. w. of Bodfari, by Fenton (*Tours*, pp. 153–4 [Sept. 16, 1808]).

Assuming that Varae is at St. Asaph, the course of the Roman road would coincide with the road which at present passes Dafarn-lefrith, Bryn-y-pin, and Sarn Rug, and marks the boundary between the counties of Flint and Denbigh. Further w. it would proceed through the parish of Bettws-yn-Rhos, and on past Gofer Mountain to Tal-y-cafn, which is a mile or so N.E. of Caerhun. So far, however, no tangible evidence of the road has been detected in the county, the course just suggested being purely hypothetical, though highly probable. The late Prof. Haverfield favoured this route, or at least the eastern portion of it, his words being : “ Certainly the only piece of modern road in this region which seems to have a Roman look runs westwards from the Clwyd near St. Asaph past Glasgoed and Sarn-rug for about six miles. This is straight and old : for half the distance it forms a parish boundary.”

[“ Military Aspects of Roman Wales,” *Cymmrodorion Soc. Trans.*, 1908–9, pp. 26–28 ; *Arch. Camb.*, 1912, pp. 217, 313 ; *Roman Roads in Britain* (Codrington), 1918³, pp. 22, 77 ; *Flintshire Hist. Soc. Publications*, ix, pp. 81ff.]

INDEX.

	<i>Pages</i>		<i>Pages</i>
Abergele	27-48	Axes (Stone)— <i>con.</i>	
Aber Sychnant	120	Llandrillo (Colwyn Bay) ..	196
Aberwhiler	48-50	Llanfair D.C. (Llwyn Ynn) ..	216
Acton	50-3	Llangernyw (Wenlli) ..	247
Agricola	183	" (Hafod Fawr) ..	249
Alarch	333	Llangollen (Trevor Hall) ..	271
" Alignments "	9, 383, 384	Llanefydd (Y Foel Bach) ..	295
" Allor Moloch "	354	Llanrwst (Coedfa) ..	337
Alwen Reservoir Circle ..	78	" (Farm Yard) ..	338
" Spearhead ..	84	" (Pen-y-fron) ..	339
Amber Beads	374	Llansilin (Tynewydd) ..	362
Ancient Burial, Llanarmon yr Ial	178, 9	Trefnant (Tynlon) ..	413
Ancient Roads : Aberwhiler ..	49		
" Llanarmon D. ..		Bach ap Carwed	113
Ceiriog ..	160	Bagot Monument	104
" Llandegla ..	193-4	Beads, Notched Porcelain ..	19, 277
" Llanfair D.C. ..	215	" Beakers "	19, 20
" Llanrhaeadr-y-m-		" Henllan (Plas Heaton) ..	140
Mochriant ..	304	" Llansilin (Mynydd-y-	
Ancient Villages :	13	bryn)	361
" Clocaenog, Cefn ..		" Bedd "	6
" Bannog ..	97	Bedd Alarch	333
" Pentrevoelas, ..		" Bedd Carrog "	112
Moel Seisioeg ..	386	Bedd Emlyn	92-5
Armlet (Bronze)	24, 317	Bedd Robin Hood	345
" Avenues "	9	Bedd-y-Canwr	118
Axe-hammers (<i>see</i> Hammers) ..	16	Bedd y Cawr (Cefn)	67
Axes (Bronze)	17	Beidiog Uchaf	352
Flanged :		Benlli Gawr	185
Llanarmon D.C. (Dolwen) ..	162	Bersham	53
Palstaves :		Berwyn, Craig and Cader ..	297
Abergele	39	Bettws yn Rhos	53-4
Acton (Rhosnesney) ..	50	Blaen Nant	256
Bylchau (Ereiviati) ..	60	Bodgynwch (Llangernyw) ..	251
Gwytherin (Caecoed) ..	138	Bodidris, Prehistoric Burial ..	178
Gwytherin	138	Bodlywydd, Roman Coins ..	208-10
Llanbedr (Moel y Gaer) ..	191	Boncyn Crwn	347
Llandrillo (Colwyn Bay) ..	197	Boncyn Gefelliau	367
Llanfair D.C. (Llwyn Ynn) ..	218	Bone Caves	1
" (Plas Uchaf) ..	220	Bont Newydd Cave	61
" (Pwll Callod) ..	220	Bracelet (Bronze)	317
Llanfair Talhaearn (Felin		Brasgyll Cave	288
Grepog)	226	Brittany	8, 10
Llangadwaladr (Hen Hafod) ..	242	Bron-y-berllan (Roman Coins) ..	44-7
Llangernyw (Bodgynwch) ..	251	Bron yr Athro	244
Llangollen	271	Bronze Age Finds	15
Llanrwst (Cilcennis) ..	341	Bronze Age Pottery	19
Llansantffraid G.C. ..	358	Bronze Armlet	317
Socketed :		Bronze Bowl	85-9
Cefn	68	Bronze Celts, <i>see</i> Axes (Bronze) ..	17
Cerrig-y-drudion	82-3	Bronze Chisel	342
Efenechtyd (Coed Marchan) ..	111	Bronze Vessels :	
Llanarmon D. Ceiriog ..	161	Abergele (Plas Uchaf) ..	39
Llanfihangel G.M. (Penygaer) ..	238	Llantysilio (Coed Ial) ..	369-72
Llangollen (Dinas Bran) ..	254	Broughton	54-5
" ?	254	Broughton Camp	54-5
" (Trevor)	272	Bryn Arddu	129, 130
Llansilin (Tynewydd) ..	362	Bryn Alun Tumulus	155
Llantysilio	368, 369	Bryn Alun Camp	155-7
Ruabon	397	Bryn Beddau (Rhydlydan) ..	412
Axes (Stone)	14	Bryn Bugeilyn	126
Abergele (Clwyd Avenue) ..	27	Bryn Celli Ddu " Cromlech " ..	3, 355
Llanarmon yn Ial (Rhos		Bryn Cynrig Tumulus	347
Ddigre) ..	170	Bryndedwydd (Llangwm), Coins ..	285
" (Bryniau) ..	180	Bryn Dinas Camp	300-1
		Bryn Du Cairn	240

	<i>Pages</i>
Bryn Eglwys	55-9
Bryn Eisteddfod	357
Bryn Euryn Camp	194
Bryn Euryn, Roman Coins	198
Bryn Heilyn	75
Bryn Nantllech Tumulus	347
Bryn-y-beddau	92-5, 412
Bryn yr Orsedd (Llansannan)	351
Bryn Rhydd Tumulus	112
Bryn (Ruabon)	392
Bryniau Stone Celt	180

Burials :

Llansannan (Cefn Treflech) ..	351
Llansannan (Beidiog Uchaf) ..	352
Ruabon Grammar School ..	394
Burnt Stone	188
Burton	59
Bwlch Agricola	183
Bwlch Llech	212
Bwlch Llech Tumuli	177
Bwlch Pen Barras, Stone Hammer ..	190
Bwlch Pen Barras, Loom Weights ..	192
Bwlch y Garnedd	387
" Bwrdd y Tri Arglwydd " ..	364
Bylchau	59-61
Bysshopeswall	314

Cader Fronwen Cairn	158
Cader Ddinmael, Tumulus	281
Cader Ddinmael, Meini'r Beirdd ..	282
Cader y frenhines	104
Cae Coed (Gwytherin) Palstave ..	137
Cae Du, Tumulus	348
Cae Du, Spindle Whorl	354
Cae Haidd	336
" Caer "	10, 11
Caer Caradog	234-6
Caerddinen	208
Caer Ddunod, Circle	231
Caer Ddunod, Camp	231-3
Caer Forwyn	106
Caer Gerrig	282
" Caerau " Circles (Derwen) ..	108
" Caerau " Camp (Llanfair) ..	214

Cairns : 4

Cerrig-y-drudion, Bryn y Garnedd	76
Cerrig-y-drudion, Pont yr Alwen	76-7
Clocaenog, Hafoty Hendre ..	96
Cyffylliog, Banciau Ty Uchaf ..	98
" Y Foel Goch	98
" Y Foel Frech	99, 100
" Pincyn Llys	105
Derwen, Garw Fynydd	108
Esclusham Above Dyke, Abersychnant Ford ..	120
Esclusham Above, Nant y Cwm Mawr	120
Glyn Traean, Graig Wen Hill ..	130-
" Spring Hill	132
Gwern Howel, Moel Frech ..	133
Gwytherin, Carnedd Goronwy ..	135
Llanarmon D. Ceiriog, Mynydd Tarw	157
Llanarmon D. Ceiriog, Cader Fronwen	158

Cairns—con.

	<i>Pages</i>
Llanarmon D. Ceiriog, Swch Cae Rhiw	158
Llanarmon yn Ial, Moel y Waun	171
Llanarmon yn Ial, Moel Garegog	176
Llanarmon yn Ial, Llyn Cyfynwy	176
Llanarmon yn Ial, Moel Giw ..	177
Llanarmon yn Ial, " Bedd y Gwr Hir "	178
Llanbedr, Moel Fenlli	182
Llandegla, Cyrn y Brain ..	192-3
" Erw Garnedd	193
Llanfair D.C., Tyn Llanfair ..	211
" Mynydd Cricor	212
Llanferres, Moel Famau	227
" Maes y Garnedd	228
Llangadwaladr, Pen Llyn Gloyw	239
" Bryn Du	240
Llangollen, Wilderness	257
" Eglwyseg Mt.	259
" Creigiau Eglwyseg	260
" Craig y Forwyn	262
" Sychnant	261
" Nant Craig y Moch	263
" Tower, Trevor	263
" Blackwood, Trevor	263
" Near Eglwyseg Plantation	264
" Trevor Rocks (7)	264
Llanefydd, Y Garnedd	289
Llanrhaiadr-ym-Mochnant :—	
" Afon Disgynfa	296
" Moel Sych	296
" Craig Berwyn	297
" Gwernfeifod	297-8
" Y Garnedd Wen	298
Llanrhaiadr yn Cinmerch, Ceunant Diffwys	310
" Y Garnedd	311
Llanrws, Y Garnedd Wen ..	332
" Bryn Cyplau	334
Llansilin, Mynydd y Bryn ..	358
Pentrevoelas, Pen yr Orsedd ..	380
" Moel Rhiwllug	381
" Hafod-y-dre	384
Pen-y-cae, Cefn y Gader (3) ..	90
" Ruabon Mt.	391
St. George, Pen y Garnedd ..	398
Camps, 10. Roman, 13 :	
Abergele, Pen-y-corddyn	29-35
" Castell Cawr	35-8
Broughton	54
Efenechtyd	109
Llai, Bryn Alun	155-7
" Y Gaer	159
Llanarmon D. Ceiriog	159
Llanbedr, Moel Fenlli	183ff.
" Moel y Gaer	186ff.
Llandrillo, Bryn Euryn	194-6
Llandyrnog, Pen-y-Cloddiau ..	199-202
Llanfair D.C., Craig Adwy Wynt	213-4
Llanfihangel G.M., Caer Ddunod	231-3

Camps—con.	Pages
Llanfihangel G.M., Caer	
Caradog	234-5
Llanfwrog, Pen - y - gaer	
(Alleged Camp)	238
Llangedwyn, Yr Allt	244
Llangollen, Dinas Bran ..	252-3
" Pen-y-gaer, Trevor	268-270
Llangwm, Caer Gerrig	282
Llanefydd, Mynydd y Gaer	291-3
" Moel y Canwr	293
Llanrhaidr - ym - Mochnant,	
Bryn Dinas	300-1
Llansantffraid Glan Conway,	
Erw Goch	356
Llantysilio, Moel y Gaer ..	366-7
Llanynys, Pwll-y-clai	374
Ruabon, Y Gardden	395-6
St. George, Parc y Meirch	399-408
Tre-Brys, Y Gaer	412
Capel Garmon, Cromlech ..	323-8
Capel Garmon, Fire Dog ..	343-5
Capel Hiraethog circles ..	101-2
Caratacus	233
Carchar Cynrig Rwth	70, 72-4
" Carn, " " Carnedd "	6
Carn Brys	82
Carnac	10
" Carnedd Efa "	53
" Carnedd Heilyn "	53
Carnedd Rhun	333
Carnedd y Drummer	387
Carreg Coedog	343
Carreg Dafydd (Whorls) ..	68
Carreg Einws Tumulus	207
" Carreg Lwyd "	9
Carreg y Big	267
Castanets	223
" Castell "	12
Castell Cawr Camp	35-8
Cefn (St. Asaph)	61-8
Cefn Bannog, Ancient Village	97
Cefn Breninig Tumuli	379
Cefn Maen (Llanrhaidr yn Cin-	
merch)	311
Cefn Treflech, Burial	351
" Spindle Whorls	354
Cefn y Fedw	257
Cefn y Gader, Tumuli	390
Centurial Stones	25, 154
Cernioge	381, 386
Cerrig Gwynion Camp	159-160
Cerrig Ellgwm	133, 411
Cerrig Llwydion (Llandyrnog) ..	199
" (Llanfair D.C.)	215
Cerrig-y-drudion	68-90
Cerrig-y-Gwr-Cethin	77
Charles, Edward	98, 109
Chieftain's Grave (Llangollen) ..	265
Chirk	90
Cilcennis, Palstave	341
" Cinerary Urns " (see Urns) ..	21
Cipius Nicomachus	371
Circles :	
Cerrig-y-drudion, Mynydd	
Poeth	77
" Alwen Reservoir	78
" Bryn Heilyn	78-9

Circles—con.	Pages
Cerrig-y-drudion, Pont yr	
Alwen	79
" Carn Brys	80
Clocaenog, Lodge	91
" Moor	95-6
Cyffylliog, Capel Hiraethog	101-2
" Hafoty Wen	103
" Y Foel Frech	103-4
Derwen, " Caerau "	108
Glyn Traean, Spring Hill ..	132
Gwern Howel, Cerrig Ellgwm	133
Llanfihangel G.M., Hafod Wen	230
" Nant Tan-y-foel	230
" Tyddyn Tudur	231
" Caer Ddunod	231
Llangollen, Eglwyseg Mt.	266, 267
Llanrhaidr yn Cinmerch,	
Hafoty Siôn Llwyd	310
Pentrevoelas, Maes y Merddyn	385
" Fron Bellaf	385
Circular Hammers (Pierced) 17, 181, 340	
Cists :	
Cerrig-y-drudion, Bryn Heilyn	75
" Ty-tan-y-foel	85
Llanelidan, Caerddinen ..	208
Pentrevoelas, Cernioge ..	381
" Tai-tan-lan	381
" Hafod-y-garreg	381
Ruabon, Bryn	392
Cistfeini	3
Clocaenog	90-8
Clwyd Avenue	27
Coed Coch (Roman Coin) ..	54
Coed Corniwh, Earthwork ..	312-3
Coed Ial	367
" Bronze Vessels	369
Coed Marchan Celts	111
Coed Pennant Tumulus	90
Coedfa, Stone Celts	337-8
Coins (Roman), see Roman Coins	
Colander	41
Colwyn Bay, Stone Axe	196
" Bronze Axe	197
Concentric Circles	132
Conovium	418
Copa'r Wylfa	37-8
" Corddyn "	35
Craig Adwy Wynt Camp	213-4
Craig y Forwyn Cairn	262
Craig yr Iyrchen Huts	81
Craignant	124
Croes Foel Tumulus	121
" Cromlech "	2, 323, 354
Cyffylliog	98-107
" Cynrig Rwth "	70, 72-4
Cyrn y Brain Cairns	192-3
Daggers (Bronze) :	18, 125
Cerrig-y-drudion	83
Cyffylliog (Nilig)	106
Derwen (Glan Gors)	108
Glyn Traean (Orsedd Wen)	123
Llanfair D.C. (Eyarth Rock)	221
Llansannan (Rhiwiau) ..	350
Denbigh	107
Derwen	108-9
Deunant Isaf Tumulus	346
Dew Pond	267

	Pages		Pages
"Din," "Dinas"	12	Graig Lwyr Neolithic Stone Axe	
Dinarth	196	Factory	15
Dinas Bran, Fort	252-3	Greenwell, Canon	368
"Socketed Celt"	254	Gresford	133
Din Cadfel	293	Groes Onnen (Eglwys Bach)	119
"Dinhengroen"	37	Gwên, son of Llywarch Hen	125-6
Dinorben Camp	399-408	Gwernfeifod Cairns	297-8
"Mound"	408	Gwern Howel	133
"Disc Barrows"	6, 7	Gwern y Ciliau (Querns)	227
Dolganed, Ffridd	28	"Gwersyll," "Gwersyllt"	12, 13, 134
Dolpennau	283-4	"Gwyddfa"	6
"Dolmen"	2	Gwytherin	134-8
Dolwen (Llanarmon D.C.) Bronze		"Pillar Stones, Church-	
Celt	162	yard	136
"Querns"	165	Gyffylliog (<i>see</i> Cyffylliog)	
Dunod	233		
		Hafod Fawr, Stone Celts	249
Earthen Circles	7	Hafod Lom, Stone Hammer	316
Earthworks :		Hafod y bwch Tumulus	121
Llai, Y Gaer	157	Hafod-y-garreg, Cists, etc.	382
Llangernyw, Pant-y-rhedyn	246	Hafod y Llan	76
Llanrhaiadr yn Cimmerch,		Hafod-y-maidd, Sepulchral	
Coed Cornwiche	312	Chambers	71-5
"Hen Ddinbych	313-6	Roman Coins	89
Efenechtyd	109-112	Hafoty Hendre	96-7
"Camp (Penygae)	110	Hafoty Wen Circle	103
Eglwys Bach	112-9	"Halberds"	17
Eglwyseg Mountain Tumuli	257ff.	Hallstatt	22
Eglwyseg Plantation, Cairns	264, 266	Hammers (Stone) :	16
"Penannular Brooch	274	Llanarmon D. Ceiriog (Pentre)	161
Eglwyseg Rocks, Bronze Socketed		Llanarmon yn Ial (Rhiw Ial)	181
Spearheads	273	Llanbedr	191
Elor Garreg	83	Llanbedr (Bwlch Pen Barras)	190
Emlyn, Bedd	92-5	Llanfihangel G.M. (Tir-y-	
Ereiviat (Palstave)	60	barwn)	236
Erw Goch Camp	356	Llangadwaladr (Tregeiriog)	242
Esclusham Above Dyke	119-121	Llangernyw (Plas Isaf)	249
Esclusham Below Dyke	121-2	Llangwm (Maesmor)	284
Ewelme (Bowl)	88	Llanrhaiadr - ym - Mochnant	
		(River Iwrch)	306
Fairy Mount (Wrexham)	417	"(Tyn-y-ddol)	306
Farm Yard (Llanrwst), Tumulus	329-31	Llanrhaiadr yn Cimmerch,	
"Finds"	14	Hafod Lom	316
Fire Dog (Capel Garmon),	24, 343-5	Llanrwst, Pen-y-fron	340
Flint Implements (Neolithic)	15	Llansilin, Tynewydd	363
(Bronze Age)	16	Pentrevoelas, Maes Gwyn	387
Flint Knives	128, 353	Hanging Bowl (Bronze)	23
Food Vessels	20	Haverfield, Professor	43
"Llangwm (Ystrad		Hen Ddinbych	313-6
Fawr)	280	Hen Hafod, Palstave	242
"Wrexham (Hillbury)	415	Henblas Tumulus	335
Fox Hall Tumuli	142-3	Hendre Ddu (Llangernyw)	245
"Earthwork	143	Hendre Isaf Mound	247
Ffos y Bleiddiaid	38-9	Hendre Waelod Cromlech	4, 354
Ffynnonlas Tumulus	256	Henllan	138-143
Ffynogion, "Spoons"	222	Hennin Henben	398
		Hillbury Tumulus	414
"Gallery"	3	Hilly Field (Holt)	148
Gardden Camp	395-6	Holt	143-155
Garnedd (Llanefydd)	289	"Roman Site	145ff.
Garnedd Wen (Llanrhaiadr ym		Horse Trappings	19, 408
Mochnant)	298	Horse-shore Pavement	283-4
Garnedd Wen (Llanrwst)	332	"Hut-circles"	8
Gloddaeth Tumuli	203	Hwlfordd Tumulus	348
Glyn Traean	122-132		
"Gorsedd"	6	"Incense Cups"	22, 144
Gorsedd Bran Tumuli	376-9	Iron Age	22
Gorsedd Grugyn (Llanrwst)	331	Iron Fire Dog	24, 343

	Pages		Pages
Kindonan, Sutherland	10	Maen Pebyll	4, 319-321
Knife Daggers	125	Maes Gwyn Mound	385
Kroumlech	2	" Stone Hammer	387
La Tène	22, 23	Maes Moelur Tumuli	192
" Late Celtic "	23	Maes Mochnant, Tumulus	299
Leaf-shaped Swords	18, 19, 58	" Pillar Stone	302
Long Barrows	2	Maes Mynan (Mound)	49
Long Cairns :		Maes y Merddyn Circle	385
Cefn, Tyddyn Bleiddyn	64	" Spearhead	388
Llanrwst, Maen Pebyll	319-21	Maesmor, Stone Hammer	284
" Capel Garmon	323-8	" Quern	288
St. George	398	" Matztzebah "	9
Loom Weights	24, 192	" Meini Hirion "	8, 267
" Lyons "	145	Melai (Sepulchral Vessels)	226
Llai	155-7	Miliary Stones	25
Llanarmon D. Ceiriog	157-165	Minera, Socketed Knife	376
Llanarmon yn Ial	165-182	Mines (Roman)	14, 38
Ossiferous Caves	165ff.	Moel Famau, Cairns	227
Llanbedr	182-192	Moel Fenlli, Cairn	187
Llandegla	192-4	" Camp	183
Llandrillo yn Rhos	194-9	" Coins	228-9
Llandyrnog	199-202	Moel Fodiur Tumuli	289
Llanddewi	246	Moel Eithinen Tumuli	182
Llandoget	202	Moel Garegog Cairns	176
Llanelian	203-6	Moel Giw Cairn	177
Llanelidan	206-10	Moel Seisiog	135, 386
Llanfair D.C.	211-224	Moel Sych, Cairn	296
Llanfairtalhaearn	224-7	Moel Tywysog	60
Llanferres	227-230	Moel y Gaer, Llanbedr	186-9
Llanfihangel Glyn Myfyr	230-9	" Llantysilio	366
Llanfwrog	238-9	Moel y Gamelin Tumulus	364
Llangadwaladr	239-244	Moel y Parc (Tumulus)	48
Llangedwyn	244-5	Moel y Plas Tumulus	173
Llangernyw	245-251	Moel y Waun Cairns	171-2
Llangollen	252-275	Moelfre	28, 38
Llangwm	275-288	Mwdwl Eithin, Hiraethog	81
Llanefydd	288-296	" Eglwys Bach	113
Ossiferous Cave	288	Mynydd Cricor, Cairn and Tumu- lus	212
" Camp	291-3	Mynydd Tarw, Cairn	157
Llanrhaidr-ym-Mochnant	296-308	" Bronze Celt	161
Llanrhaidr yn Cinmerch	308-317	Mynydd y Bryn (Llansilin), Cairn	358
Llanrhudd, Roman Coin	317	" Beaker	361
Llanrwst	317-345	" Bwrdd y Tri Arg- lwydd	364
Llansannan	345-354	Mynydd y Gaer	291
Llansantffraid Glan Conway	354-7	Mynydd y Gyrt	294
" Cromlech	354		
Llantsantffraid Glyn Ceiriog	358	Naid y Cawr	294
Llansilin	358-364	Nantglyn	376-80
Llantysilio yn Ial	364-73	Nant Sempyr Roman Coin	199
Llanynys	373-4	Nebo, Maen Pebyll	319
Llech Ddaniel	314, 315	" Earthen Structures	336
Llemenig	66-7	" Spearhead	342
Llwydiarth	129	Neolithic Age Finds	14, 15
Llwyn Ynn, Ancient Road	215	Neolithic Vessels, Rhos Ddigré	170
" Stone Axe	216	Nilig Dagger	106
" Bronze Axe	218	Nilig Spindle Whorl	107
" Roman Bridge	216	Notched Porcelain Beads	19
Llyn Cyfynwy Cairn	176		
Llyn-dau-ychen	92	Offa's Dyke	122
Llysfaen	374-6	Ogo Tyn-y-coed	323
" Roman Coins	374-6	Orsedd Wen	122-6
Llys Maes Mynan	50	Ossiferous Caves :	1
Llys y frenhines	104	Cefn	61-4
Mace-heads	16, 284	Henllan	138
Maen Gwyn	37	Llanarmon yn Ial	165ff.
" Maen Llwyd "	9	Llanefydd	288

	<i>Pages</i>		<i>Pages</i>
Palaeolithic Age Finds	14	Rhiwiau, Flint Knife	353
Palstaves (<i>see</i> Axes, Bronze). ..	17	Rhiwas Quern	363
Pant-y-garn	392	Rhos Abbey Roman Coins	198
Pant y Garreg Fawr	299	Rhos Ddigre Caves	168
Pant-y-maen	56-7	Rhos Lydan Tumuli	56
Parc y Meirch Camp	399-408	Rhosllanerchrugog	392
" Horse Trappings	408ff.	Rhosnesney Bronze Implements ..	50-1
Pebyll	321	Rhos Pen'r'allor	179
Penannular Brooch	274	Rhyd Siôn Wyn, Tumulus, etc. . .	309ff.
" Brooches	275	Rhyd-y-bedd	352
Pentregwyddel Coins	375	Roman Brick-kilns	14
Pentrevoelas	380-9	Roman Camps	13
Pen-y-cae	390-2	Roman Coins :	25
Pen-y-cloddiau Camp	199-202	Abergele	44-7, 48
Pen-y-Corddyn Camp	29ff.	Cerrig-y-drudion (Hafod-y- maidd)	89
Pen-y-Fron (Llanrwst) Stone Celts	339	Derwen (Pyllau Perl)	109
" Stone Hammer	340	Holt	154, 155
Penygaer (Llanfihangel G.M.)		Llanarmon D.C.	162-5
Camp	234	Llandrillo (Bryn Euryr)	198
" Socketed Celt	238	" (Rhos Abbey)	198
" (Llangollen) Trevor	268-70	" (Nant Sempyr)	199
Pen y Garnedd (Llanrwst)	336	Llanddoget (Y Wern)	202
Pen-yr-Orsedd (Llansantffraid) ..	356	Llanelidan (Bodlywydd)	208-10
" (Pentrevoelas)	380	Llanfair D.C.	223
Perllan yr Arglwydd Tumulus	397	Llanferres (Moel Fenlli)	228-9
Perthi Chwarae Caves	165ff.	" (Maes Hafn)	230
Perthi Tumulus	109	Llangwm (Bryndedwydd)	285-7
Pillar of Eliseg	364	Llanrhudd	317
" Pillar Stones " :	8	Llantysilio (Pen-y-bryn)	372
Gwytherin Churchyard	136	" (Tynewydd)	373
Llangernyw Churchyard	246	Llysfaen (Pwll Morkyn)	374
Llanrhaiadr yn Mochnant	302-3	" (Pentregwyddel)	375
Llanrhaiadr yn Cinmerch	311	Pen-y-cae (Ruabon Mt.)	391
" Pillow-mounds "	7, 195	St. George (Dinorben Camp) ..	401ff.
Pincyn Llys	104	Roman Era	24ff.
Plas Cadwgan Mound	121	" Inscribed Stones	25
Plas Einion Tumulus	211	" Manufactory	145-155
Plas Isaf (Llangernyw), Stone		" Mines	14, 38
Hammers	249	" Pottery	25
Plas Heaton Ossiferous Cave	138	" Roads	14, 418
" Tumuli	139-141	" Smelting Furnaces	13
Plas Meifod (Henllan) Tumulus ..	142	" Trinkets	25
Plas Newydd (Llansannan)	349	" Vessels	25, 39, 369
Plas Uchaf (Abergele), Utensils ..	39	" Villas	13
" (Llanfair D.C.), Pal- stave	220	Ruabon	392-7
Plas-y-Ward Tumuli	373	Saith Darren Tumulus	173
Plas y Meudwy	315	Samian Ware	25, 154, 184, 401
Platform, Pont yr Alwen	80	Sarffle (Roman Coins)	162-5
" Rhyd Sion Wyn	310	Sepulchral Vessels (Holt)	143-5
Platycnemic tibiae	66	" (Melai)	226
" Poncyn Crwn "	6, 347	Sgwennant Mound	241
" Poncyn Garmon "	161	Skillets	43, 39, 369
Pont Fadog	122-132	Socketed Celts (<i>see</i> Axes).	
Pottery, Bronze Age	19	Socketed Knives	19, 376
" Neolithic	15	Spearheads (Bronze)	18
" Preseb y Fuwch Frech "	91-2	" Maes Mynan	50
Pwll Calloed (Llanfair D.C.), Pal- stave	220	" Alwen Reservoir	84
Pwll Morkyn	374	" Eglwyseg Rocks	273
Pwll Naid Tumulus	206	" Nebo (Llanrwst)	342
Pwll-y-clai Camp	374	" Llantysilio	368
Pyllau Perl (Roman Coins)	109	" Maes y Merddyn (Pen- trevoelas)	388
Querns	26, 288, 317, 389	" Dol Trebeddau	388
Rhiw Ial Stone Hammer	181	" Spindle Whorls "	26
Rhiwiau, Tumulus	350	" Spoons " (Bronze)	24, 222
		Spring Hill Cairn	132

	<i>Pages</i>		<i>Pages</i>
Spring Hill Circles	132	Tumuli—con.	
" Standing Stones "	8	Glyn Traean, Llwydiarth ..	129
St. Asaph	418	" Bryn Arddun 129–130	
St. George	398–411	? Plas Crogen ..	132
Stones Axes (<i>see</i> Axes, Stone) ..	15	Gwersyllt, ? Gwersyllt Park ..	134
" Stone Circles " (<i>see</i> Circles) ..	7	Gwytherin, Ffrith Uchaf ..	134
" Stone Rows "	9	" ? Moel Seisiog ..	135
Sunici	151	Henllan, Plas Heaton ..	142
Swch Cae Rhiw Cairn	158	" Cae Degai ..	139
Swch Isgaer Wen	104	" Coed y Plas ..	141
Sychnant, Cairn	262	" Plas Meifod ..	142
		" Fox Hall ..	142
Tai-fry	71	Llai, Bryn Alun ..	155
Tanygraig (Cefn)	64–7, 68	Llanarmon yn Ial, Tyn Llan ..	172
Tan yr Ogo (Coin)	48	" Nurse Fawr ..	172
Terra Sigillata	25	" Moel y Plas ..	173
Tir Ifan	411	" Llwyn y Frân ..	173
Tir-y-barwn	236	" Saith Darren ..	173
Tom Dongen Tumulus	206	" Excavated ..	174
" Tomen "	6	" Turnpike ..	175
Tomen y Gwyddel	239	" Bwlch Llech ..	177
" Whorl ..	243	Llanbedr, Moel Eithinen ..	182
Tomen-y-meirw	358	Llandegla, Maes Maelor ..	192
Torcs	19, 369	Llandrillo, Glan y Gors ..	194
Tower (Trevor), Cairn	263	Llanelian, Gloddaeth ..	203
Tre-Brys	412	" Tynyfridd ..	205
Trefnant	413–4	Llanellidan, Tom Dongen ..	206
Tregeiriog	241, 2	" Maes y Llan ..	206
Trevor Camp	268–70	" Pwll Naid ..	206
Trevor Hall, Stone Celt ..	271	" Carreg Einws ..	207
" Bronze Socketed Celt ..	272	" ? Cefn Maen Llwyd ..	207
Trevor Rocks, Cairns	264	" ? Pwll Du ..	208
" Penannular Brooch ..	274	Llanfair D.C., Plas Einion ..	211
Trofarth	53	" Mynydd Cricor ..	212
Trum y Garnedd	356	" Bwlch Llech ..	212
Trunnion Celt	357	Llanfair Talhaearn Rhos Domen ..	224
Turnpike (Llanarmon) Tumuli ..	175	" Nant Cornwall ..	225
Tumuli:	4	" Pen-y-mwdwl ..	225
Aberwhiler (Moel y Parc) ..	48	" Mynydd Bodroch-	
" Aberwhiler Farm ..	48	wyn ..	225
Bryn Eglwys, Ty Mawr ..	55	Llangadwaladr, Tomen y	
" Rhos Lydan ..	56	Gwyddel ..	239
" Pant-y-maen ..	56	Llangernyw, Hendre Ddu ..	245
Bylchau, Near Church ..	59	" Llanddewi (alleged	
Cerrig-y-drudion, Cronglwyd		tumulus) ..	246
Fawr ..	75	Llangollen, Blaen Bache ..	255
" Pentre-cwm-mawr ..	75	" Blaen Nant ..	256
Clocaenog, Coed Pennant ..	90	" Ffynnon Las ..	256
" ? Bedd Emlyn ..	92	" Wilderness ..	256
Cyffylliog, Y Foel Goch ..	99	" Cefn y Fedw ..	257
" Cors Cesyg ..	99	" Eglwyseg Moun-	
Efenechtyd, Perthi	109	tain (3) ..	257f., 261
Eglwys Bach, Tyn Terfyn ..	112	" Creigiau Eglwyseg ..	261
" Bryn Rhydd ..	112	" Craig y Forwyn ..	262
" " Bedd Carrog " ..	112	Llangwm, Ystrad Fawr ..	275–81
" Mwdwl Eithin ..	113ff.	" Cader Ddinmael ..	281
" Bedd-y-Canwr ..	118	Llanefydd, Moel Fodiard (2) ..	289
Esclusham Above Dyke, Ty-		Llanrhaiadr - ym - Mochnant,	
hir Sheepwalk ..	119	Cader Berwyn ..	297
Esclusham Above Dyke, Aber		" Y Foel Ddu ..	298
Sychnant	120	" Maes Mochnant	
Esclusham Below Dyke, Croes		Isaf ..	299
Foel	121	Llanrhaiadr yn Cinmerch,	
Esclusham Below Dyke, Hafod		Bwlch Du ..	308
y bwch	121	" Rhyd Siôn Wyn ..	309
Glyn Traean, Yr Orsedd		" Twr yr Hill ..	309
Wen ..	122–132	Llanrwst, Farm Yard ..	329–31
" Bryn Bugeilyn ..	126–9	" Gorsedd Grugyn ..	331
		" Henblas ..	335

		Pages			Pages
Tumuli—con.					
Llanrwst,	Sofflan ..	335	Tynlon, Flint Celt and Whorl ..		413-4
"	Bryn yr Odyn ..	335	Tyn Llanfair Cairn ..		211
"	Moel Iwrch Uchaf ..	335	Tyn Terfyn Tumulus ..		112
Llansannan,	Bedd Robin Hood ..	345	Tyn-y-coed (Cromlech) ..		323
"	Deunant Isaf ..	346	Tyn-y-gilfach ..		81
"	Blaen y Cwm ..	347	Tyn-y-llan (Llanarmon-yn-Ial)		
"	" Poncyn Crwn " ..	347	Tumuli ..		172
"	Bryn Cynrig ..	347	Ty-tan-y-foel (Bronze Bowl) ..		85-9
"	Bryn Nantllech ..	347			
"	Cae Du ..	348	Urns (Cinerary) :..		21
"	Hwlfordd ..	348	Glyn Traean, Bryn Bugeilyn ..		128
"	Penclogor ..	348	Eglwys Bach ..		116-8
"	Pengwern ..	2, 349	Holt ..		143-5
"	Plas Newydd ..	349	Llanarmon yn Ial (Bodidris) ..		178
"	Rhiwiau ..	350	Llanelian (Gloddaeth) ..		204
"	Cae Gronw ..	350	Llangollen (Eglwyseg Mt.) ..		258
"	Bryn yr Orsedd ..	351	Llangwm (Ystrad Fawr) ..		278
Llansantffraid Glan Conway,			Nantglyn, Gorsedd Bran ..		378
"	Pen-yr-orsedd ..	356	Pentrevoelas, Trebeddau ..		387
"	Gofer ..	356	Ruabon (Bryn) ..		392
Llansantffraid Glyn Ceiriog,			Wrexham, Hillbury ..		415
"	Tomen y Meirw ..	358	"	Fairy Mount ..	417
Llantysilio, Moel y Gamelin ..		364			
"	Pillar of Eliseg ..	364	Varae ..		14, 418
Llanynys, Plas-y-ward ..		373			
Nantglyn, Gorsedd Bran ..		376-9	Wall Lock Field (Holt) ..		143-7
"	Cefn Brennig ..	379	Warren, S. Hazzledine ..		15
Pentrevoelas, Maes Gwyn ..		385	Wat's Dyke ..		156
Pen-y-cae, Cefn y Gader ..		390	Waun Eos ..		389
"	Ruabon Mt. ..	391	Wauns (Gwersyllt) ..		134
Ruabon, Wynnstay ..		394	Whetstone (Llanrhaiadr-ym-		
Ruthin, Perllan yr Arglwydd ..		397	"	Mochnant) ..	307
Tir Ifan, ? Cerrig Ellgwm Isaf ..		411	Whorls ..		26
Tir Ifan, ? Ynys Wen ..		411	Wilderness Tumuli ..		256-7
Wrexham, Hillbury ..		414-6	Wrexham ..		414-7
"	Fairy Mount ..	417	Wroxeter ..		18
" Twmpath " ..		6, 367	Wynnstay, Tumulus ..		394
Twr yr Hill Tumulus ..		309	"	Mound ..	396
Tyddyn Bleiddyn ..		4, 64-7			
Tymawr Tumuli ..		55-6	Ystrad Fawr Tumulus ..		275
Tynwydd (Llansilin) Implements ..		362			



